



You're providing healthy food for our neighbors this holiday season!

AROUND *the* TABLE

Winter 2020



Trisha Cunningham
President & CEO

Turning Hunger into Hope During the Holidays



This holiday season, I'm especially thankful for you and the kindness and compassion you have shown hungry neighbors in our community.

It's been a challenging time *for everyone*, full of financial uncertainty and overwhelming need. Thankfully, the North Texas Food Bank has been able to count on dedicated friends like you to ensure that our neighbors have access to nutritious food.

This year, you've made the following possible for our community:

- More than 218 Mobile Pantry distributions since March
- More than 63 million meals distributed
- More than 60 million pounds of food distributed

As you can see, the need is great. But so is the response, thanks to having partners like you by our side.

You might be surprised to learn that **40% of the people served by North Texas Food Bank's Feeding Network were seeking food assistance for the first time.** The sad reality is that many families are just one missed paycheck away from facing hunger. **Hunger exists in all zip codes and is found where you might least expect it.**

In this issue of *Around the Table*, you'll meet a few of the faces of hunger you're helping every day. These are neighbors like Dorie and Rich, single parents who recently lost their jobs but, thanks to you, are still able to feed their families. You'll also meet Silvia, who is grateful for the food that friends like you provide.

Thank you for being a lifeline for children, seniors and families who won't have to worry about where their next meal will come from this holiday season. Together, we can make this a holiday of hope and not hunger.

Gratefully,

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President & CEO

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"It's very reassuring to know you're able to get the food you need."

Because of you, neighbors who've suffered job loss won't go hungry this holiday season

Dorie was one of 500 employees laid off from a healthcare company when the COVID-19 pandemic began. As a single parent, she didn't know how long she'd be out of work or if she'd have a job to return to at all. Dorie worried about how she'd provide for her two children.

Thankfully, Dorie knew where to turn for help. Seven years ago, a food pantry run by one of our Partner Agencies was there for her when she needed it. And since then, Dorie has visited that pantry whenever she hit a rough patch financially.

"The food pantry is very welcoming," Dorie says. "There is no shame, and everyone is there for the same reason."

Like many of our Partner Agencies, they changed to a walk-up distribution model of pre-made boxes, due to the pandemic. Dorie enjoys the new, faster approach, and she appreciates the care that goes into providing her with healthy foods for well-balanced meals.

"You can tell from the quality of the boxes that the dollars coming in are being used directly for us," Dorie says.

With more and more North Texans at risk of going hungry, you make it possible to provide healthy food to those who turn to us.

"Some people have lost their jobs and are not used to the loss of income. They are struggling just like I am," Dorie says. "This impacts every demographic."

She is grateful for the support from friends like you because "we are all feeling the same hurt."

"During this time, it's very reassuring to know you're able to get the food you need," Dorie says.

We're happy to share that Dorie was rehired by her employer this fall! And she's relieved to know that we'll always be here to help people in their time of need — no matter the circumstance.

Your ongoing support ensures that people like Dorie who've lost their jobs or faced other unexpected expenses due to the pandemic can receive healthy food. Thank you!



Thanks to gifts from friends like you, struggling families in North Texas like Dorie's will be fed this holiday season.

North Texas Giving Day

Thank you to Communities Foundation of Texas, our match sponsors and the support of friends like you for a record-breaking North Texas Giving Day! Together, we raised enough funds to provide access to more than **5.6 million nutritious meals** for our neighbors facing hunger.

Thank you to our match sponsors:

Priscilla Endicott
Charitable Foundation

Anonymous

You Are Giving Food *and Hope* for the Holidays

More children, seniors and families across North Texas need our help than ever before. Thank you for your continued support to feed our hungry neighbors!



Thousands of North Texans are struggling from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. You are helping them have one less worry.



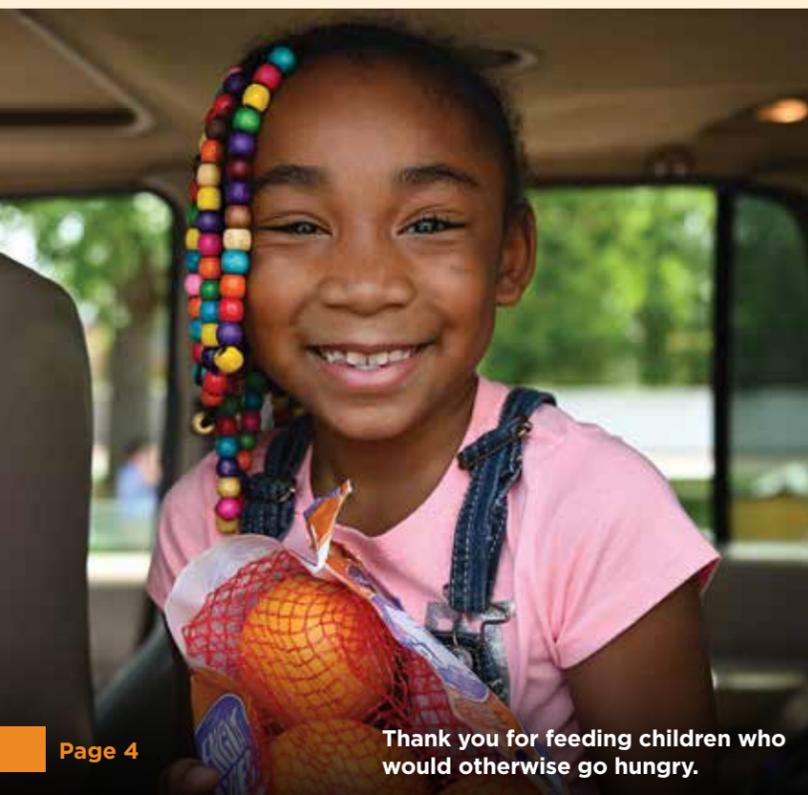
In a time of so much uncertainty for children and parents, your gifts are making an incredible impact.



THE
FACES OF
HUNGER
ARE ALL
AROUND US

Give your neighbors the gift of healthy food this holiday season

The faces of hunger in our community might surprise you. It could be your neighbor, your coworker or your child's best friend. It's hard to imagine, but hunger is all around us, especially during these trying times. That's why we are so grateful for you. With your support, struggling children, seniors and families across North Texas don't have to face hunger alone. They can turn to the North Texas Food Bank for the food they need this holiday season and beyond.



Thank you for feeding children who would otherwise go hungry.



Because of your support, our Mobile Pantries are providing food to more North Texans than ever before.



Thank you for giving those in need a helping hand.

GET INVOLVED

Holiday Match

Now - December 31

Thanks to a combined \$200,000 Matching Gift Opportunity from our friends at Sammons Enterprises and the Beaumont Foundation of America, your gift is tripled this holiday season, which means \$1 will provide nine nutritious meals. Give today at ntfb.org/holidaynewsletter.

Giving Tuesday

December 1

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Together on this day, we can provide healthy meals to our neighbors facing hunger. To join the movement, visit ntfb.org/givingtuesday.

Community Partnerships

Ongoing

Interested in hosting your own fundraising event to benefit the North Texas Food Bank? Whether it's a partial proceeds event or a new campaign, we are grateful for our partners that help raise both funds and awareness to help fight hunger in our community. Learn more at ntfb.org/events.

Social Media Ambassadors

Ongoing

Join the Food Bank family as a Social Media Ambassador and you can help spread the word about hunger and our mission. Each month, you will receive exclusive updates that you can post on your social media pages to be a voice alongside us. For more information, visit ntfb.org/SMA.

A Single Parent Didn't Know Where to Turn for Help

Thanks to you, his children won't have to go to bed hungry

For Rich and his two children, the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything. Being a single parent isn't easy, and Rich was proud to always have been able to give his kids what they needed to grow up healthy.

His career installing A/V equipment for school districts had been more than enough to provide for his family. But when his hours were cut this past spring, Rich began to worry.

He tried hard to make ends meet, but soon his paycheck could only cover bills. There wasn't enough money left over for groceries.

"I have always tried to make it on my own and have never wanted to ask for help," Rich says. "But when your kids come to you and say they are hungry, it is just devastating. We were out of everything."

After a quick search on the internet, he found out that one of our Partner Agencies was right around the corner from his home. His initial hesitation turned to gratitude as he received the balanced and healthy foods his kids needed.

"This food is such a blessing," Rich says. "I don't know what would have happened if the food pantry weren't there. When this is all over, I plan to go and volunteer so I can pay back what they have done for me and my family."

Thousands of people in North Texas like Rich have had to seek food assistance for the first time. **It's only with your help that we can make sure families like Rich's don't have to worry about going hungry this holiday season.**



Your Gift Will Provide 3X the Holiday Meals

Help feed three times as many hungry North Texans this time of year

As countless neighbors in our community continue to struggle, more people than ever are turning to the North Texas Food Bank for food assistance. The need is unparalleled. Your gifts help us meet the increased demand, and thanks to a Matching Opportunity from our friends at Sammons Enterprises and the Beaumont Foundation of America, **any gift you give before December 31 will TRIPLE!**

Your gifts will TRIPLE, up to \$200,000, to feed three times as many hungry people in North Texas. Just \$1 is all it takes to provide nine holiday meals for children, seniors and families facing hunger. Thank you for helping our friends and neighbors at a time when they need it most.



YOU CAN PROVIDE THREE TIMES AS MANY MEALS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Thanks to a generous Matching Opportunity



Help Feed Hungry Neighbors All Year Long

The COVID-19 pandemic is leaving thousands without an income, and many people are facing hunger for the first time. As the Food Bank and our Partner Agencies see the need increase, **your continued support is critical to help our neighbors during this time of crisis and beyond.**

Become a Monthly Meal Maker today and make a life-changing difference! A recurring, monthly gift is a reliable way to provide healthy meals every day to the children, seniors and families who are experiencing hunger.

Help hungry North Texans all year long. To become a Monthly Meal Maker, visit ntfb.org/holidaynewsletter and check the "Yes, automatically repeat this gift every month" box underneath your selected gift amount.

“I hate to think of a child going to bed hungry.”

How you're continuing to feed neighbors in need

Silvia is a guardian to a 5-year-old boy with serious physical and medical conditions. She knew it would be a difficult journey, but she was surprised by how hard it was to find affordable healthy food that met his dietary needs.

Two years ago, she reached out for the first time to the Amazing Grace Food Pantry, one of our Partner Agencies. They were able to provide Silvia with fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy and protein.

“You can make amazing meals out of the food they provide,” she says.

For vulnerable families like Silvia's, healthy food is critical. But visiting a food pantry during a pandemic can feel overwhelming for a family with health concerns. Thankfully, our Partner Agencies are implementing protocols in order to minimize the risk.

“The staff is taking great care to keep us safe,” Silvia says. “They are very kind and considerate.”

Along with our other Partner Agencies, Amazing Grace has moved to a boxed food distribution model during the pandemic. Silvia appreciates the new system because now she can safely and quickly stop by and pick up a box of healthy food, allowing her more time to take care of a growing boy.



Because of you, neighbors like Silvia and her family are able to get healthy food during this difficult time.

**“There is nothing
to be ashamed of.
Just ask for help.”**

— Silvia

Your support makes this possible!

These days, as budgets are stretched thin, more people in our community are facing hunger. Silvia has kind words for anyone who might find themselves needing assistance for the first time.

“There is nothing to be ashamed of,” Silvia says. “Just ask for help.”

She's grateful for the support she's received and hopes friends like you can continue to help neighbors in need. “I hate to think of a child going to bed hungry,” she says.

Thank you for feeding hungry neighbors like Silvia and her family this holiday season.



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Our Vision:
A hunger-free, healthy North Texas

