

For more information, please visit our website www.feedinghandspantry.org

ONLY 1% WENT TOWARDS ADMIN AND FUNDRAISING.

2023 - MAJOR CHANGE AND MAJOR IMPACT A MESSAGE FROM LOIS BENNETT, OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A Year for the Books

2023 was a milestone year for Feeding Hands! After more than three years of searching for a space adequate to meet the needs of the families we serve, we opened our new headquarters. We signed the lease in late January and immediately went to work creating a space fitting of our mission to provide food in a way that uplifts all of those we touch. As shown in our documentary, <u>Standing in the Gap</u>, which premiered on YouTube in September, **in just five months we had accomplished the task, moving into our new headquarters facility in early July.**

New Facility, New Process, More Essentials Provided For Record Guest Visits

Our new facility has a beautiful shopping area where **weekly over 150 families come** to select family sustaining basics. They select the foods that meet their dietary needs, cooking capabilities, and preferences. With our new space and refrigeration capacity, **we have increased the produce, meat, fish, bread, and dairy options to represent 43% of the 1.15 million pounds of groceries we distribute** from our headquarters and three satellite locations. Other essentials including diapers, formula, feminine hygiene, personal care, cleaning items, and pet food are also available to help stabilize families. Thanks to one of our high school volunteers, we secured a large supply of eco-friendly

14X more NEW HOME!

FIRST HOME

AND A

600 SQFT



8000 SQFT

laundry detergent from Earth Breeze to meet our families' needs through their generous donation program.

By year end, **our family visits had increased 37%** and the **number of people served during those visits increased 49%** as more families with children struggled to cope with rising housing and food costs. And, as we have throughout the nine years of our existence, we once again did not miss a single distribution, providing reliable support to those living without margin.

Powered by Contagious Volunteerism

Accomplishing these milestones could not have been possible without the hands of our many loyal volunteers. Our unique culture cultivates contagious volunteerism and in 2023, our volunteers sacrificially provided 23,400 hours of service valued at \$790,000! Some came for a single two-hour shift and others multiple times a week. Our volunteers each averaged a full week of service, helping to build a more caring and connected community where children have food needed to learn, babies have clean diapers, senior citizens have access to healthy food, and veterans feel appreciated. This is rewarding work worthy of our time.

Looking Ahead to What's Next

A few short years ago, amid the pandemic, news reports showed the lines of people in need and many people were moved to respond. Although the visibility has declined, the need has significantly grown. As we look to 2024, we will be working to leverage our world-class processes, volunteer capacity, and investment in facilities to add distribution hours to accommodate the growth in families needing our help. We will also be providing greater connection to information and services to further stabilize families.

To meet this challenge, we need your help to create awareness, to advocate, and to raise the funds to make this a reality. Won't you help us as we work to create a stronger and healthier community for our future?

DONATE NOW!



www.feedinghandspantry.org

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Involve others to help be part of the solution through...

- Runner, Cyclist, Cooking or other Competition
- Encouraging donations for Birthday or Milestone Celebrations
- Club or Social Organization
- Church or Religious Affiliations
- Employer Drives/Awareness Campaigns

We welcome all ideas, big or small!

Contact: dev@feedinghandspantry.org We can now accept gifts of stock!

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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Feeding Hands is a 501c3 public charity.