

# YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

## **QUARTERLY REPORT: APRIL - JUNE 2023**

# L. RON PRINGLE

Dear Friends,

While our fiscal year has come to a close, our work continues on, full steam ahead. We are evaluating



the lessons learned, engaging community leaders, and continuing to seek their guidance to steer our direction for the future. Over the past few months alone our neighbors have shared how the challenges of rising food costs, the loss of temporary benefits, and increasing inflation is forcing them to make tough decisions in their households. Serving 128% more people than last year, our food costs have risen more than 420% since 2019. However, because of you we have not turned anyone away.

We are grateful for you and the support you continue to provide, which allows us to be responsive to our neighbors at their time of need. Every community is different and the solutions to building sustainable food systems are unique to each of them. Thanks to you, we can provide culturally appropriate healthy food choices, allow families to choose what they need with dignity and respect, and engage many of our local limited resourced farmers in the process. Some of whom are now GAP Certified because of the support.

We are grateful for the diverse family of donors, volunteers, community partners and leaders who walked alongside us to meet the needs of our communities. I encourage you to not only review this report to learn more about the work and community success taking place here at home, but also to share with your friends and family. We are all truly better together when we listen to understand and respond with compassion. Growing forward!

L. Ron Pringle

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President and CEO

## Where Does Hunger Live?

The oppressive Carolina heat adds to health risks for neighbors who cannot afford air conditioning. For those without transportation, waiting at bus stops without shade or walking long distances to the corner store can be downright dangerous. How does the Food Shuttle know where best to locate services to reduce these burdens of access?

Our community partners and program participants routinely point to the local needs, supporting our community-driven model. Also crucial to providing services where they are most needed is reliable data and mapping that show where multiple socioeconomic challenges intersect.

The Food Shuttles' Interactive map shows areas of highest vulnerability to food insecurity, overlaid

with the locations of programs. This map allows our staff to make informed decisions





and serves as a resource to the

community. View the map using the QR code above or cut and paste this link to learn more about food insecurity in your community:

https://www.foodshuttle.org/hunger-101

For Mobile Market and Food Pantry locations in our service area, please visit

www.FoodShuttle.org/FindFood.

To support the Food Shuttle's continuing hunger relief efforts, please visit

www.FoodShuttle.org/Donate.



# April -June 2023 IMPACT

#### **CHILD HUNGER**

5,299 BackPack Buddies Children Served3,714 Familes Served Through School Pantries275 Community Health Education Participants

#### SENIOR NUTRITION

4,411 Grocery Bags for Seniors Delivered79 Diabetic Education for Seniors Participants

#### **FARMS & GARDENS**

83 Gardens For Everyone Built
18,506 Pounds of Produce Harvested
104 Agriculture Education Participants

## **FOOD RECOVERY & DISTRIBUTION**

2,808,423 Pounds of Food Distributed
330,293 Number of Neighbors Served Through
All Our Programs

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

8,138 Volunteer Hours Engaged Across All Our Programs





FEEDING AMERICA SELECTS FOOD SHUTTLE FOR SPECIAL RESEARCH COHORT

Child Hunger Programs received \$40,000 from Feeding America to evaluate our BackPack Buddies and School Pantry programs in Nash and Edgecombe counties.

Using the "Measurement, Evaluation, and Learning" method (MEL) approach, the grant enables the Food Shuttle to gather and act on local insights, using two probing questions:

- 1. Who is not being served by Child Hunger Programs in Nash and Edgecombe counties, and why?
- 2. How can we expand Child Hunger Programs?

Asking these "why", "who," and "how" type questions will allow us to build and deliver a better service system.



UNITED WAY OF THE GREATER TRIANGLE AWARD

United Way of the Greater Triangle awards Inter-Faith Food Shuttle \$50,000 Healthy Families Grant

United Way's giving is community-based in all aspects. Thousands of community members donate to the fund, then over 500 volunteers review applications and recommend the recipients based on potential impact and an organization's focus on equity and anti-racism.

We're grateful to be selected. This gift helps keep crops growing, food trucks rolling, and food on tables to support family health.

## PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

The partnerships highlighted below show the breadth and depth by which our community partners with us to envision a hunger free community. Thank you for the part you play in this critical mission.



Since April, **Karen LaBranche** has volunteered 25 hours of service supporting Grocery Bags for Seniors! She volunteers individually and with her team at Humana, logging 56 total team hours. Karen always brings a smile and Humana's reusable bags to be filled with groceries.



A \$26,000 grant from Searstone/Lutheran Services Carolinas will again provide Wake seniors nutritious food through our Grocery Bags for Seniors program. Searstone's wonderful volunteer and funding support freed up other funds, allowing us to fuel expansion of this crucial program in our rural service areas.



The Burt's Bees Foundation provided \$7,500 in May for irrigation and erosion control upgrades at Geer Street Learning Garden. Since 2020 they have supported the Food Shuttle farm, Gardens For Everyone and now our learning gardens, bringing their investment in our Agriculture programs full circle!



A big thanks to the team at **Sir Walter Chevrolet**, who recently volunteered to make deliveries with Grocery Bags for Seniors - to Sir Walter Raleigh Apartments! We appreciate you and are excited about the future of our partnership.



Melissa Needham, Program Planning and Evaluation Specialist for Save the Children, came for a site visit in May. Over the last year, this former Food Shuttle intern has facilitated our cultivation of \$50,000 in grant partnerships for Child Hunger programs in rural counties!



Shoutout to our amazing **BackPack Buddies School Partners.** Growing this year to 71 schools!
Together, we have distributed 263,000 pounds of nutritious food to over 2,500 students in the last school year! Your compassionate work ensures food on the table at home.

# **CULTIVATE AN END TO HUNGER ALL YEAR LONG**



As a **CULTIVATOR Monthly Sustaining Donor**, you will be recognized as a leading partner in building a just community in which all residents have access to the healthy food, knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to thrive all year long.

Join a community of *Cultivators* at a minimum of \$10 per month and we'll send you a durable, reusable tote that will tell the world that vou support long-term, sustainable solutions to ending hunger.

Visit www.FoodShuttle.org/Cultivators to learn more and join!



# STAY ENGAGED!

Donate and partner with us to improve the health and well-being of our communities.

FoodShuttle.org/GiveNow

- Volunteer in-person or virtually with us. FoodShuttle.org/Volunteer
- Sign up for our e-newsletter. Follow us on social media and use our hashtags!
- @foodshuttle





@foodshuttle

#FoodShuttle #FeedTeachGrow #HungerisFixable



Learn More



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