

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SUMMER 2019



IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 3

**Support August's
Dollar-A-Dish
Fundraiser for the
Food 4 Kids
Backpack Program**

PAGE 4

**AimLoan.com San
Diego Blues Festival,
Saturday, Sept. 7**

PAGE 5

**SDSU Receives the
2019 Eugene "Mitch"
Mitchell Community
Hero Award**

School's Out, Hunger's Not

Help the Food Bank Feed Families in Need this Summer

On the last day of school in June, two moms, Silvia and Barbara, pictured above, pick up their children from John Adams Elementary School in Normal Heights. Both families struggle with food insecurity and receive help from the Food Bank to put food on the table.

Silvia, pictured above left with her two daughters, receives help from the Food Bank at a monthly food distribution site near her home, and both of her daughters, Jessica and Isabella, are on the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program which provides weekend backpacks of food to children who face food insecurity at home.

"We are a one-income family. My husband is the sole provider for our family, and we struggle to make ends meet. My husband works for a healthcare company. We are currently supporting our two children as well as my brother, my sister, and my niece who all live with us," explains Silvia.

"We are taking care of five dependents and survive on one paycheck. After we pay our bills there's not much left over for food. That's why the food we get from the Food Bank is such a big help to my family. There have been times when we didn't have

"We survive on one paycheck. My husband is the sole earner, and we struggle to put food on the table for my children, my sister, brother and niece who live with us...The Food Bank helps us so much."

- Silvia, Normal Heights



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Thank you for your support!

This year's School's Out, Hunger's Not Summer Food Drive which was held during month of June was a huge success thanks to you, our supporters!

Our supermarket partners Albertsons and Vons enabled customers to donate \$5 pre-filled bags of food to help us feed children living in poverty who lose access to school meals over summer vacation.

A big thank you to our supporters, the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, Wells Fargo Bank and SDG&E. And special thanks to our media partners, CBS 8, The CW, KSON, KyXy, FM 94.9, and the San Diego Union Tribune who helped us get the message out to the community to donate.

I also want to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who attended and supported our annual Chefs, Cork & Craft Gala in April. The event was a great success with over 500 attendees, and it raised \$650K for our vital hunger-relief programs including our new Diaper to Degree Program. I'd like to recognize our gala co-chairs, Jeannie Johnson Bolinger and Cheryl Floros, our title sponsor R&R Construction and all of our gala sponsors, our emcees Chrissy Russo and Raoul Martinez from FOX5, our gala committees, our 30 amazing volunteer chefs, the evening's volunteers, and everyone who made our seventh annual gala a night to remember.

Mark your calendars for our 9th annual AimLoan.com San Diego Blues Festival (see pg. 4) taking place on Saturday, Sept. 7 on the downtown waterfront. We have 9 acts including this year's headliner, Taj Mahal! Get your tickets today! Visit www.SDBluesFest.com.

On Sept. 17, the Food Bank will host our biennial Hunger Conference which is a capacity-building conference for our 500 nonprofit partners. This year's theme is *Fighting Hunger Through Connected Communities*, and the objective of the conference is to provide cutting-edge workshops on a range of subjects that will help our partners better serve those in need.

This September is our annual Hunger Awareness Month campaign in San Diego County. Throughout the month we will shine a spotlight on the problem of hunger in our community and provide ways for our supporters to take action! You can help by supporting our campaign with Mission Federal Credit Union. Throughout September, every Mission Fed branch will collect \$5 donations to support our new On-the-Go Pantry Program that provides emergency food assistance to food-insecure students at area middle schools and high schools. Please visit your local branch in September and make a donation to this vital program! You can also support Hunger Awareness Month by volunteering, hosting a food drive, or making a monetary donation online.

The above are just a few examples of how the Food Bank is engaging our community. Please know that you are at the heart of all we do, and I wholeheartedly thank you for your commitment to our vital mission.

Thank you!

James A. Floros, President & CEO



James A. Floros
President/CEO



enough food, and that's when we went to the Food Bank so I could feed our children. The Food Bank provided us with produce, fresh foods, and canned food which helped us so much," continues Silvia.

Barbara, pictured on the cover with her two sons, Treyvion and Brandon, is a single mom who also struggles to put food on the table for her family. Treyvion is in the first grade and Brandon is in Kindergarten. Both students are also on the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, and Barbara visits the Food Bank's monthly distribution in her neighborhood of Normal Heights to help make ends meet.

"I work in childcare and I struggle to pay bills and put food on the table. The free school meals help so much and the Backpack Program helps us over the weekend when things are tight at home. We also get help from the Food Bank's food distribution nearby. Last time we got frozen chicken, canned foods, and fresh produce. It helped me and my kids so much," explains Barbara.

"San Diego is such a hard place to live. After rent, utilities, gas for the car, and expenses for the kids, there's just not enough left over to buy food. That's why we are so blessed to get help from the Food Bank," continues Barbara.

Over the summer months, children living in poverty stop receiving free breakfasts and lunches at school during summer vacation, and their parents struggle to provide three meals a day, seven days a week. Many families turn to the Food Bank for help.

As Barbara turns to leave with her children she asks to share a message with the Food Bank's donors,

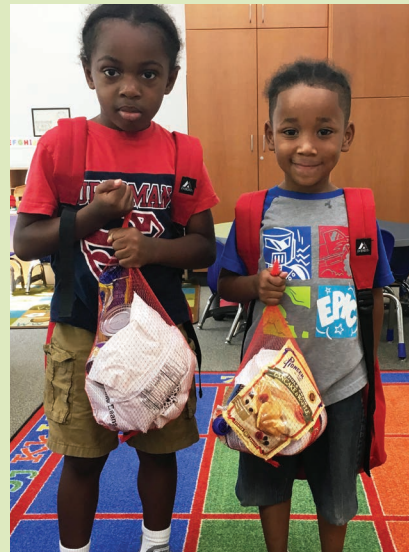
"I would like to thank your donors. They are helping a lot of people like me and my children.

We are so grateful for the help they give to us through the Food Bank. I just cannot thank them enough."

You can help the Food Bank provide food to children and families in need by supporting our hunger-relief programs this summer.

Visit: SanDiegoFoodBank.org/Summer for more information.

For information about supporting our Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, contact Liz Sheahan, Vice President of Development at LSheahan@SanDiegoFoodBank.org or 858-863-5129.



Treyvion, age 6, and Brandon, age 5, attend Adams Elementary in Normal Heights and are on the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program.

Support August's Dollar-A-Dish Fundraiser for the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program



Throughout the month of August, San Diego restaurants are joining together to support the Food Bank's annual Dollar-A-Dish fundraiser benefiting the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program.

To participate in the fundraiser, restaurants select one best-selling signature dish and donate \$1 to the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program every time that dish is ordered.

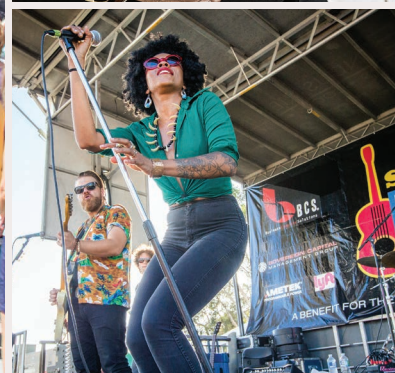
The Food 4 Kids Backpack Program provides weekend backpacks filled with food to elementary school children living in poverty. Children on the program receive free school meals during the week but face hunger over the weekend when free school meals are unavailable.

The Food Bank extends our gratitude to the restaurants who are supporting the program again this year through the Dollar-A-Dish campaign. Funds raised through the campaign will enable the Food Bank to feed more children this coming school year.

For more information visit: SanDiegoFoodBank.org/Dollar

Taj Mahal to Headline 9th Annual AimLoan.com San Diego Blues Festival

Saturday,
Sept. 7, 2019
Benefiting the
Food Bank



Grammy Award-winning blues legend, Taj Mahal, will headline this year's AimLoan.com San Diego Blues Festival which is a benefit for the Food Bank.

The family-friendly event will feature national and local blues acts on two stages from noon to 8 p.m. at Embarcadero Marina Park North on the downtown San Diego waterfront.

Taj Mahal is a singer-songwriter and guitarist who has been performing for over five decades! Festivalgoers will enjoy Taj Mahal perform his own unique blend of blues music with the Phantom Blues Band.

Other performers at this year's festival will include The Sleepwalkers, Whitney Shay, Black Market III, Chris James & Patrick Rynn, Curtis Salgado, Larkin Poe, Eric Gales, and Jim Gibson.

Attendees will enjoy specialist food vendors, local craft beer, wine, and specialty cocktails along with arts and crafts booths.

General admission tickets for the event are \$35. VIP tickets are \$150 and include a complimentary lunch, two drinks, and preferred shaded seating near the stages.

Super VIP tickets are \$300 and include all the VIP benefits plus guaranteed seats directly in front of each stage and an invitation to the festival's kickoff party the night before.

Bring your family and friends for a fun-filled weekend of music, and help the Food Bank give hunger the blues. The Food Bank is encouraging all event-goers to bring two cans of food to donate.

For tickets and information visit: SDBluesFest.com



Food Bank's Annual Chefs, Cork & Craft Gala Raises \$650K for Hunger-relief Programs



The San Diego Food Bank held our seventh annual Chefs, Cork & Craft Gala on Saturday, April 27 at the Food Bank's 90,000-square-foot warehouse in Miramar.

The event raised more than \$650,000 for our hunger-relief programs, including our new Diaper to Degree Program which supports multiple programs that help children from infants to college students in communities throughout San Diego County.

The gala, which sold out in January, was attended by over 500 guests and featured the culinary talent of 30 of the county's best chefs. All of the participating chefs donated their time, talent, and food to prepare an exquisite dinner for their assigned tables of gala guests.

Attendees were treated to craft cocktails and hors d'oeuvres during the opening reception, fabulous silent and live auction items, and live music by The Fremonts.

The evening's program was emceed by FOX 5 Morning News anchors, Chrissy Russo and Raoul Martinez. The gala closed with dancing and live entertainment by the celebrated local band, The Sleepwalkers.

The Food Bank thanks our sponsors, supporters, and volunteers who made the evening a great success!

Save the date for our 2020 Chefs, Cork & Craft Gala which will take place on Saturday, April 25, 2020.

SDSU Receives the 2019 Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell Community Hero Award

Students and administration officials from SDSU received the Food Bank's annual Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell Community Hero Award at the Food Bank's 2019 Chefs, Cork & Craft Gala.

The Food Bank honored San Diego State University for its long-term contributions made to support the Food Bank's mission by staff, faculty, the administration, the student body, and alumni.

San Diego State University has supported the Food Bank through major annual food drive campaigns, public awareness programs, and through volunteerism.

Since 2010, San Diego State University has hosted its annual Aztecs Rock Hunger Food Drive which has raised over 2.8 million pounds of food for the Food Bank through food and monetary collections on campus!

The Food Bank thanks San Diego State University for its outstanding commitment to the Food Bank's mission!



Mitch Mitchell and Food Bank CEO Jim Floros present the 2019 Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell Community Hero Award to students and officials from San Diego State University.

Special Thanks

Our gratitude goes to the following corporations, foundations, and organizations for their generous support received between December 11, 2018, and March 25, 2019.

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Planning Your Estate?

Include the Food Bank in
your will. Your legacy will
make a difference in the lives
of San Diegans we serve for
generations to come.

*Please call us at 858-863-5129
or send an e-mail to
legacy@sandiegofoodbank.org*

