

40 YEARS OF SERVICE



SECOND
HARVEST
FOOD
BANK
ORANGE COUNTY

FALL 2023

Nourishing OC for 40 Years

This fall marks 40 years of Second Harvest Food Bank serving our friends and neighbors in Orange County who've needed us the most. People from all walks of life, like Sandra¹ of Anaheim, who works full time yet has almost no money left for groceries after she pays her family's bills. Sandra told us that **"Second Harvest is a lifeline for us. We're able to access the type of healthy food through pantries that I simply cannot afford at the store."**

The numbers in Orange County are staggering—nearly 33 percent of households here² are struggling to meet

their basic needs. And with rising inflation, that number is increasing every day.

What this means is that families are forced to buy the least expensive food options available, which tend to be high calorie, nutritionally deficient processed foods. And the evidence is clear: Consuming those foods often leads to poor health outcomes like obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure and heart disease, among others.

But that is why we exist—to help provide consistent access to nutritious food to people in Orange County who need it most.



Our Commitment to Meeting the Need

In response to the growing demand for healthy food, Second Harvest collaborated with our partner Solutions for Urban Agriculture. We also worked with the University of California South Coast Research and Extension Center (South Coast REC) on the 40-acre Harvest Solutions Farm in Irvine, **producing up to 60,000 pounds of fresh produce weekly.**

This year, volunteers have harvested almost 2.1 million pounds and dedicated over 37,000 hours. Their invaluable contributions have helped keep the Farm's operational costs low, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of them.

The Next 40 Years and Beyond

Over the span of 40 years, we have gone from serving a comparably small number to now serving over 400,000 people every month. Debra¹, a mother of five, one of whom has special needs, faces financial challenges in making ends meet. Debra, who frequently receives food from one of our partners, told us that **"even though I work, I just**

can't make enough, so the food at the pantry helps me and my family so much."

The last 40 years would not have been possible without our supporters. We thank you and invite you to continue supporting our mission and join us in nourishing Orange County for another 40 years and beyond.

1) Names changed to protect anonymity. 2) <https://unitedwaysca.org/realcost/>

Our 40-Year Evolution

Second Harvest has been in evolving over the years, adapting to our ever-changing world. Early on, our mission was to get whatever food possible into the hands of people in need.

Yet as a nationwide focus on nutrition grew and poverty levels rose, we changed course. We turned

to nutrition experts, who make up our Nutrition Advisory Council. They guided us in our choices for fresh produce, lean proteins and whole grains. We ramped up the scale of operations to meet the increased need in our community.



L-R: Original location in Orange and the current location in Irvine.

The Great 24-Hour Nutrition Mission: Second Harvest's 24-Hour 40th Anniversary Fundraising Event

Join our Day of Giving to honor 40 years of service to the community!

In commemoration of our 40th anniversary, we're holding a one-day online giving campaign on **Tuesday, October 24, 2023**. This Day of Giving is an opportunity to unite in nourishing our community.

Your generous contributions will directly support the Food Bank's operations and continued success of programs such as Harvest Solutions Farm. Join us in turning compassion into action on this extraordinary day as we work together to

provide dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food to our neighbors in Orange County. Thank you for getting involved and making a difference, and we hope you join us on this historic occasion!



Scan Me!
feedoc.org/giving-day/





Taking Steps to End Hunger

On Saturday, September 9, 2023, Tanaka Farms in Irvine was alive with purpose and passion as we hosted the Second Annual Walk to Feed OC. Over 1,000 individuals from 104 teams joined us for the free, 1.5-mile noncompetitive event, united in their commitment to raise funds and awareness about food and nutritional insecurity in Orange County.

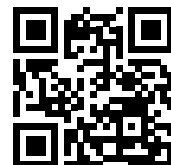
Together, we walked and raised more than \$306,000, surpassing our goal of \$300,000. That means nearly 15 additional truckloads of nutritious food for those in need, and countless lives touched by the generosity of our community.

Participants from all walks of life embraced the day, each step resonating with the vision of an Orange County with food and nutritional security

for all. We're filled with gratitude for every participant, volunteer, supporter and sponsor. Your collective effort has once again turned steps into sustenance for Orange County.

There's still time to support these efforts. Scan the QR code or visit <https://feedoc.org/walk/>.

Thank you to our top Walk to Feed OC sponsors: Ralphs Grocery Company, Food 4 Less, Albertsons, Chick-fil-A and International Paper.



An Action-Packed Collaboration Hunger Action Month Highlight

This September marked a special Hunger Action Month (HAM) in Orange County as Second Harvest Food Bank teamed up with Pretend City Children's Museum. The Museum "turned orange" for the month, symbolizing hunger awareness.

Children of all ages visited Pretend City, becoming aware of food and nutritional insecurity. Through engaging activities, they "bought" food at the Pretend City Trader Joe's, "donated" it to the Food Bank and learned about the importance of fresh food and nutrition.

This collaborative month culminated in a dynamic and meaningful day-long "youth summit" event on September 23.

During the festivities, the community watched as a young museum guest portrayed the honorary Pretend City "Mayor" and Second Harvest Youth Council members declared September as Hunger Action Month. The summit also featured readings and discussions on food insecurity, followed by a real volunteer project where children prepared family-sized portions of apples to be distributed to clients in need at Second Harvest's partner locations.

What's next? Visit <https://feedoc.org/hungeractionmonth/> for easy ways to keep the momentum going. Together, we can make food insecurity a thing of the past in Orange County.



L-R: Ellen Pais (Pretend City Exec. Dir.), mayor Cora, and Claudia Keller (Second Harvest CEO)

Partner Spotlight: Costa Mesa Senior Center

Every Friday, a queue of expectant faces forms at the City of Costa Mesa Senior Center, primarily consisting of seniors from the community and caregivers. They come for the fresh produce, dairy-free milk, eggs and other prized grocery items that are often pricey in stores. More than that, they come for the sense of care and community that's synonymous with the center.

Senior Community Service Leader Alexis Quintero states that the center's goal is clear: provide fresh nutrition for older adults. With the senior living community just across the street, many come every Friday, eagerly waiting for the food they look forward to all week. The center doesn't just offer groceries; it also provides frozen meals and weekly lunches, ensuring that healthy food is accessible almost immediately. Since moving the food distribution

indoors from its initial outdoor setup due to COVID, Alexis notes the gratitude that radiates from the recipients.

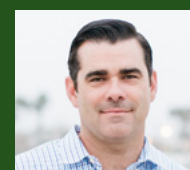
"People are willing to wait in line for food because they know we have really good items; we typically see a lot of happy faces," says Alexis. "You can tell how grateful everyone is because it's so hard to find somewhere that gives food to the senior community on a consistent basis. When people come in you can feel their warmth and how happy they are to be here. You can definitely see that you're making a difference in their lives."

Thank you, Costa Mesa Senior Center, for being an extraordinary partner in the fight against food insecurity and serving the Costa Mesa Community with unwavering compassion and innovation. #WeFeedOC



New Faces Around Second Harvest

Welcome Dr. Wayne Stickney, Chief Development Officer; Three Distinguished Industry Leaders Join Board of Directors



Dr. Wayne Stickney
Chief Development Officer

Second Harvest warmly welcomes **Dr. Wayne Stickney, E.D.D.**, as our Chief Development Officer. With a diverse background in nonprofit management, athletic administration and organizational leadership,

Dr. Stickney's expertise is an incredible asset to our mission. He previously served as Vice President of Development at Special Olympics Southern California, where he expanded fundraising and cultivated relationships with major donors.

In his new role with Second Harvest, he leads fundraising and development initiatives, building on his success of raising \$10 million for campaigns and securing significant gifts.

We're also delighted to welcome three distinguished industry leaders to our Board of Directors, further strengthening the organization's commitment to fighting food insecurity in Orange County: **Patrick Finnegan**, senior vice president of operations, Disneyland® Resort; **Bill Koschak**, a CFO and board-certified cybersecurity expert; and **Sunny Reelhorn Parr**, head of social impact for The Kroger Co.



Patrick Finnegan
Senior Vice President of Operations, Disneyland Resort



Bill Koschak
CFO and Board-Certified Cybersecurity Expert



Sunny Reelhorn Parr
Head of Social Impact, The Kroger Co.

Farm Update Nourishing Our Community

Harvest Solutions Farm celebrated its second birthday this August, reaching 4.4 million pounds of produce harvested since the launch in August 2021. The array of crops including bell peppers, broccoli, broccolini, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, green beans, spaghetti squash, watermelon, yellow squash, and zucchini have been nurturing our community now for two years!

Despite a cool start this season, we're currently harvesting melons, bell peppers, yellow squash and zucchini,

with new additions like acorn squash and butternut squash on the way.

We've launched client surveys to ensure our offerings align with community needs, and the insights are already shaping our future planting.

Volunteers, your support is the root of our success! Come join us at the Farm and be part of our mission to provide fresh, nutritious food. Your hands can help nourish those in need in Orange County. Visit feedoc.org/volunteer to sign up.



#WeFeedOC #WeFarmOC

HONEYDEW SALAD WITH PEANUTS AND LIME

INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 cup lime juice (3 limes)
- 1 shallot, sliced thin
- 2 Thai chiles, stemmed, seeded and minced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp table salt
- 1-2 tbsp sugar (optional)
- 1 tbsp fish sauce
- 1 honeydew melon, peeled, halved, seeded and cut into 1 1/2-inch chunks (about 6 cups)
- 5 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro, divided
- 5 tbsp chopped fresh mint, divided
- 5 tbsp salted dry-roasted peanuts, chopped fine, divided

DIRECTIONS

1. Combine lime juice and shallot in large bowl. Using mortar and pestle (or on cutting board using flat side of chef's knife), mash Thai chiles, garlic, and salt to fine paste. Add chile paste; sugar, if using; and fish sauce to lime juice mixture and stir to combine.
2. Add honeydew, 1/4 cup cilantro, 1/4 cup mint and 1/4 cup peanuts and toss to combine.
3. Transfer to shallow serving bowl. Sprinkle with remaining 1 tablespoon cilantro, remaining 1 tablespoon mint, and remaining 1 tablespoon peanuts and serve.

Courtesy of The Today Show
<https://www.today.com/recipes/honeydew-salad-peanuts-lime-recipe-t223785>

A Big Thanks to the OC Legal Community: Success with Food From The Bar



Second Harvest Donor Relations Manager Megan Hunker (center) with Pro Bono Publico award winners Heather Morey & Bill Schaal from Rutan + Tucker

Once again, the Food From The Bar campaign, powered by the Orange County legal community, has made a significant impact in our mission to provide the Orange County community with consistent access to nourishing food. This year's campaign, under the exceptional leadership of the campaign's Chairperson, Bill Schaal, also a valued member of our Board, raised an impressive **\$72,292.90**. Your dedication and collaboration continue to help us provide vital, nutritious meals to those in need in Orange County. Thank you for standing with us in this united cause. To date Food From The Bar has provided millions of pounds of nutritious food to those in need. Thank you to Rutan + Tucker LLP for being the top sponsor of this year's campaign.

- Award Winners:**
- Congratulations to Rutan + Tucker LLP for winning this year's Pro Bono Publico award.
- Rockstar Rainmaker
- Orange County Trial Lawyers Association (large)
 - Judicate West (medium)
 - Houser LLP (small)
- Rockstar Rookie
- Bienert Katzman Littrell Williams LLP
- Raising the Bar
- Bobby Saadian - Wilshire Law Firm
- Rockstar Voluntarius
- Call & Jensen, APC
- Rockstar "Rangler"
- Lee Stonum - Orange County Alternate Defender

Thank You To Our Donors

We appreciate these generous supporters who have made recent grants of \$5,000 or more to Second Harvest. Ask your company if employee nominations for grants are accepted. Contact grants@feedoc.org for more information.

FALL 2023

- The Alberta S. Kimball - Mary L. Anhaltzer Foundation

The Albertsons Companies Foundation

Bank of America Charitable Foundation

Capital Group Companies Charitable Giving Foundation

Fluor Foundation

Goodman Foundation
- International Paper Foundation

Nationwide Foundation

Nordstrom Cares

Share Our Strength - No Kid Hungry

SoCalGas Community Investment Fund

State Farm Companies Foundation

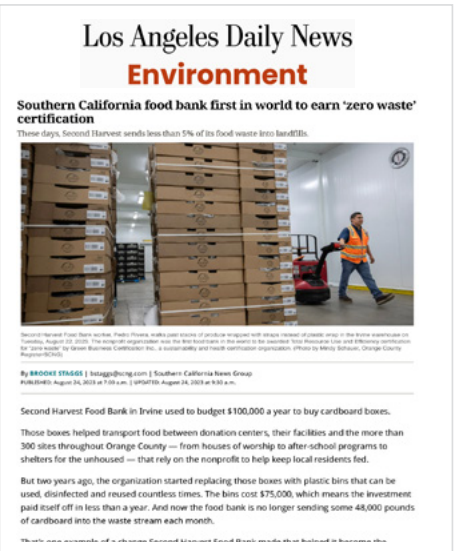
Stater Bros. Charities

In the News

This quarter, Second Harvest was featured in the media spotlight. Here are just a couple clips:



Orange County Register / Summer Meals Program



Los Angeles Daily News / Zero Waste Announcement

40 YEARS OF SERVICE



8014 Marine Way
Irvine, CA 92618-2235

Contact us

CHRISTINE MONTEVIDEO

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

949.208.3150

christine@feedoc.org

MEGAN HUNKER

DONOR RELATIONS MANAGER

949.208.3187

megan@feedoc.org

Visit our website
feedoc.org

40 YEARS OF SERVICE



MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

FEDERAL TAX ID # 32-0362611



Fall 2023