

40 YEARS OF SERVICE



SECOND
HARVEST
FOOD
BANK
ORANGE COUNTY

WINTER 2023

A Beacon in Trying Times

THE CURE FOR ANXIETY AND WORRY

Two and a half years ago, Elizabeth's husband was diagnosed with progressive, stage four colon cancer and had to quit his job. Elizabeth also had to leave her job to become his caregiver, and their finances became very tight. That's when Elizabeth found food distributions at Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center, a partner within Second Harvest's valued Partner Network. This much-needed support is invaluable to the couple; Elizabeth says, "We have everything we need... breakfast, lunch, dinner...and it took away the worry of 'What are we going to have tomorrow?' [With my husband's condition] It's so important that it's healthy. Everything we get is so healthy."

As senior citizens in Orange County, Elizabeth and her husband are not alone. Financial insecurity is a growing threat for seniors and, with inflation and the cost of living increasing, access to food is a source of stress that Second Harvest is addressing. "With the help of Second Harvest, it's uplifting. We have survived because of [Second Harvest] and it's the generosity of this organization that has helped us through life, day after day," says Elizabeth.



"With the help of the food and Second Harvest, we have survived. It's all [so] healthy...I hope that people [know] that there is help. God bless this organization."



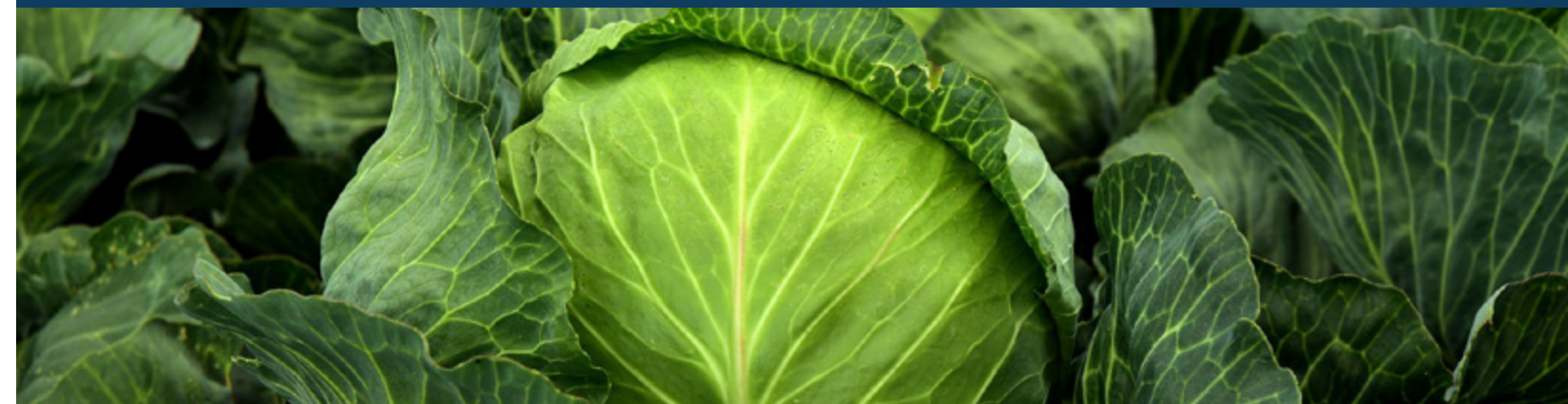
Watch Elizabeth's story at feedoc.org/elizabeth.

Hover your cell phone camera over this image to view the video.



Give the Gift of Gathering Through a Virtual Food Drive

As one of the most uniting forces in the world, food offers us the chance to connect and grow as we spend time with one another at the table. As the holidays approach, there's nothing more important to us than making sure every member of our community has access to nourishing foods that are vital to success at every stage of life. Our Virtual Food Drives make it easier than ever to lend a much-needed helping hand by conveniently "shopping" from your computer without the need to go to the grocery store. Please consider starting one among the groups in your life, including family, friends, church, office, etc. Whether you're raising funds or searching for a participating pantry partner to accept food donations, this web-based tool provides a simple and convenient way to get involved. Learn more and get started by visiting www.yourfooddrive.org.



Donate Stock or Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution to Support Neighbors in Need This Holiday Season

Did you know that donating stock or making qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) can have a big impact on fighting food insecurity in Orange County?

With Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County's partnership with FreeWill, you can help provide dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food to our Orange County neighbors while receiving tax benefits.

- **Donate Stock:** Avoid capital gains taxes and receive a charitable deduction for the full market value of your stock. Your gift will help provide nutritious food to individuals and families in need.
- **Make a QCD:** If you're 70 ½ or older, make a tax-free distribution from your IRA directly to feed OC. Support our mission and satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution.

To learn more about how you can support Second Harvest Food Bank while receiving tax benefits, scan this QR Code:



Simply Nourishing: Our “No Lunch” Lunch

On Tuesday, November 21, among a room full of big-hearted donors, volunteers, Board members, partners and hard-working employees, we provided a simple yet beautiful lunch. It included salad prepared by Bracken’s Kitchen with lettuce grown at Founders Farm as well as soup, compliments of Antonello Ristorante, and served by proprietor Antonio Cagnolo and his team. Antonio has graciously donated the soup and his time since our very first “No Lunch” Lunch in 1984.

This year’s lunch offered the chance to connect, share and hear firsthand what our 40th year has held and what’s to come. In addition, we debuted our 40th anniversary mini-documentary at the event and shared about food security, nutrition and our Farm programs - Harvest Solutions Farm and Founders Farm. Thank you to all who attended.



Former Second Harvest Board Chair and Member Bob Whiton, Second Harvest CEO Claudia Bonilla Keller, Second Harvest Board Member Daren Khatib and A.G. Kawamura.



Antonello Ristorante proprietor Antonio Cagnolo (second from left) and his team serving guests at “No Lunch” Lunch.



Guests in attendance at “No Lunch” Lunch.

We extend our appreciation to our presenting sponsor



We are so pleased to share that we raised

\$129,873

in support of our vision to create an Orange County with food and nutritional security for all.



To view the 40th anniversary mini-documentary, scan this QR Code:



Harvesters: Where Food Security is Always in Style

Harvesters, a group of devoted women who work hard to ensure that everyone in Orange County is well fed, hosted its 31st annual Fashion Show & Luncheon on October 10. **This year, Harvesters welcomed over 300 generous donors, raising a record-breaking \$1.9+ million to support the critical work of Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County.** From the champagne reception sponsored by Mikimoto to the exclusive South Coast Plaza runway show featuring the world-

renowned brands of Lanvin, MaxMara, Michael Kors Collection, Moncler, Monique Lhuillier, Oscar de la Renta and The Webster, the luncheon and silent auction were an exciting fundraising success. To date, Harvesters has contributed over \$17.5 million to Second Harvest Food Bank, helping to fund our ongoing mission to provide families, children and seniors with dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food throughout Orange County.



Second Harvest Board Member Manishi Parikh, Second Harvest CEO Claudia Bonilla Keller and Second Harvest Chief Development Officer Wayne Stickney.



Harvesters 31st Annual Fashion Show & Luncheon Chair Gail Haft and Harvesters Co-Founder Jill Johnson-Tucker.



Model during Harvesters 31st Annual Fashion Show & Luncheon.



Harvesters and guests at the 31st Annual Fashion Show & Luncheon.

Good Things are Growing at Founders Farm

Founders Farm is a unique and innovative approach to driving our mission of providing dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food. Named in honor of the Food Bank's founders, Daniel J. Harney and Tom Fuentes, the Farm pays homage to the individuals who started our organization from the ground up. Originally founded in 2020 at Second Harvest's Distribution Center, Founders Farm recently relocated to a more ideal growing environment adjacent to Harvest Solutions Farm at the University of California South Coast Research and Extension Center (SCREC) in Irvine.

Since its founding, Founders Farm has cultivated and harvested romaine lettuce, green butter crunch lettuce, red sails lettuce and Swiss chard on 93 raised beds. We look forward to introducing more new crops at Founders Farm in 2024!

Founders Farm addresses many of the challenges that we face today. Beyond the obvious of providing our neighbors with access to nutritious food, Founders Farm is an answer to the shortage of available land on which to farm. The crops grown at the Farm are cultivated in soil above ground using regenerative organic techniques and cost-effective growing systems deployed over man-made surfaces. Additionally, with its Orange County location near the Food Bank, Founders Farm is locally grown not far from the more than 300 food distribution sites of Second Harvest's partners, ultimately reducing its carbon footprint by greatly lessening the number of "food miles" traveled. Founders Farm is made possible by a generous lead gift from Bank of America in 2021.



Members of Bank of America's Hispanic/Latino Organization for Leadership & Advancement (HOLA OC) at Founders Farm. The group has committed to volunteering monthly at the Farm.



JOIN US IN THE NEW YEAR!

Volunteer shifts will soon be available at Founders Farm every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Learn more and sign up in 2024 at Feedoc.org/volunteer.

Thank You To Our Grant 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.

WINTER 2023



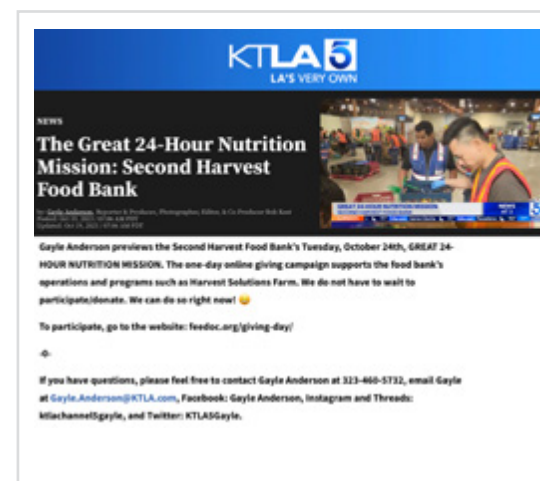
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THE DON YODER FOUNDATION

In The News

SECOND HARVEST CAPTURED THE SPOTLIGHT WITH KEY MEDIA COVERAGE THIS QUARTER. HERE ARE JUST A FEW CLIPS:



Orange County Business Journal (October 16, 2023) | OC Leader Board: 40 Years of Nourishing Ever-Evolving OC



KTLA Morning News (October 19, 2023) | The Great 24-Hour Nutrition Mission: Second Harvest Food Bank



Orange County Register (November 26, 2023) | Second Harvest at its Busiest

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Winter 2023