A word of gratitude from Al

“These programs are so very important for me and so many others in our community. Thank you.” - Bonita

Read Bonita’s story on page 2.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

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I’m so thankful to have found this support.

A.

3

YOUR SUPPORT

Transforming lives.

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At the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, we are often dealing with the unknown. The donated food that we receive varies greatly from week to week, and we are also unsure of the number of families we will see seeking assistance every week.

Families in our area are dealing with the same frightening uncertainty. Many have seen their rents rise drastically and without warning, leaving them to face some very difficult choices. Families are choosing rent over food every day. They are choosing medicines or medical care over food as well. Expenses are rising every day.

You help us face this uncertainty head-on so that families can receive the help they need to have the peace of mind to get through these tough times. With your support, families can have access to the healthy food they need and are not faced with as many tough choices.

We hear every day from neighbors like Bonita who are struggling to make ends meet. We are grateful to you for the support that allows us to be there for her in this meaningful way. Thank you so much for all you do to make sure families have the food they need.

With gratitude,

Al Brislain, President and CEO

Thank you for looking into your heart and caring about people like me.

My name is Bonita, and I’ve been disabled for several years. Living on the small amount that I receive each month for Social Security is really tough. I used to rent a small house with two other women, and we helped each other out quite a bit. But last summer, the landlord raised our rent several hundred dollars, and we were left looking for a new place to live. I ended up finding an apartment available in a subsidized housing building, so now my rent is based on my monthly income. I miss the company of my roommates, but I am so thankful to have found this apartment. It’s a huge relief knowing I won’t have to worry about losing my home due to rent increases again.

“I honestly don’t know where I’d turn if it weren’t for the Food Bank.”

I visit Food Bank programs every week to get the food that I need. My Social Security payment of $928 per month is just enough to cover my basic household bills and medical care expenses, leaving no budget for any kind of grocery shopping.

Thank you so much for your help. It means the world to me and so many of my neighbors. Without this, there are many of us who would have nothing to eat.

With your support, neighbors like Bonita are able to find peace of mind in knowing that they don’t have to worry about how they’ll eat today. Thank you!
Hi, I’m “A.” I never would have imagined myself needing to visit a food pantry, but life has thrown some difficult obstacles my way recently. Two years ago, I became a single father to three school-aged kids when my wife passed away unexpectedly. It’s been a struggle to make ends meet since then, but I was managing to make it happen each month. Then I was badly injured and wound up needing surgery. I’ve been unable to work for several months now.

It didn’t take long after my injury for me to start feeling pretty desperate. Having no income meant I couldn’t provide for my kids the way they need me to, and I worried constantly about what we were going to do. I would skip meals to make sure there was enough food for them, but then they noticed that I wasn’t eating and would begin to worry.

“My kids have been through so much the past couple years, I can’t bear the thought of them worrying about how we’re going to eat.”

Thankfully, the counselor at their school was able to give me information about how to get us help. I visit my local food pantry and the Mobile Harvest every week while my kids are in school.

I should be able to head back to work in the next couple months. I’m eager to get back to finding a sense of normalcy for all of us, and I hope that will include not needing to visit the Food Bank’s programs any more. Whatever happens next, I know that I will always be so thankful for the kindness I found here when my family needed it most.

I am so grateful to the Food Bank for being here for us through this.

Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteering: A Family Tradition

From the time their daughters were babies, Rebecca and her husband, Chris, knew that they wanted to raise kids who were regularly involved in their community. As toddlers, they could be found helping with park cleanup projects and handing out sack lunches to the homeless. As the girls grew, Rebecca was always on the lookout for new ways to give back with her children. When the Food Bank hosted its first Baggin’ for Apples event in 2014, they were quick to register to attend, and they’ve attended all but one of our all-ages volunteer opportunities since. Now that their youngest is 10 years old, the family looks forward to finding more opportunities to volunteer at the Food Bank.

Over the years, the girls’ passion for the Food Bank has grown as they’ve learned more about how their time spent volunteering impacts those in our community. Last Summer, their oldest daughter even chose to celebrate her 13th birthday by bringing a group of volunteers to the Food Bank with her.

“You have this idea as a parent about the values you want to raise your kids with. It’s so special when you see their passion start to deepen and grow. It makes me really proud to see that part of them blossom, and I’m so glad we have an amazing place like the Food Bank to foster that together.”
Your Support Keeps Families from Making Tough Choices

We are still seeing 92,000 people each month who are facing unthinkable decisions about their budgets. Those affected are often the most vulnerable in our community who have the least amount of power to change their situation. And, without that power, many families are making desperate choices like skipping meals in order to pay their other bills.

Every $1 helps us to provide three meals to families in the community. Your support gives people the healthy food they need and hope for the future!

Your support transforms lives by taking away those tough choices.

Families can provide the food for their children so that they can be successful in school and live up to their full potential. You help seniors be able to afford vital medications and the food they need for a healthy life.

This life changing support is so important to so very many. We are grateful for you and your generous donations.

Stay connected to the work you support at these sites and on our website at fbnn.org

Save the Date

March 28 - Spring Fling All-Ages Volunteer Event
May 5 - Reno’s Biggest Little Half Marathon, 10K/5K
May 11 - Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

For more information about these events, please visit our website at fbnn.org/events.

Thank You

We’re grateful to the following organizations for their generous hunger-fighting grants:

- EL Cord Foundation - $75,000
- Jack Van Sickle Foundation - $35,000
- NV Energy Foundation - $20,000
- Charles N Mathewson CLAT - $50,000
- DEW Foundation - $20,000
- Save Mart Cares - $23,381
- Redfield Foundation - $20,000
- Charles Schwab - $15,000
- LDS Church Humanitarian Project - $10,000

Yes, Al! I want to provide nutritious foods for families in our community.

☐ $250 ☐ $100 ☐ $50 ☐ $25 ☐ Other $_____

☐ Please sign me up for the Hunger Fighting Champions Monthly giving program.

NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

CITY ____________________________ STATE ZIP ____________________________

CARD NUMBER ____________________________ SECURITY # ____________ EXPIRATION DATE ____________

SIGNATURE ____________________________

May we email you periodically about the Food Bank of Northern Nevada?

☐

Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send you a receipt for your records.

To charge your gift by phone, please call (775) 331-3663.

It’s easy! Give online at fbnn.org

Food Source Mar2019

Feeding the hungry today and solving hunger for tomorrow through community partnership.