“This helps in a very big way.”
-Anastasha

Anastasha and her son have had a difficult time as they relocated in Reno from their home in Ukraine.

Read more of Anastasha’s story on page 2.
While the heat of summer is still upon us, signs of autumn are looming right around the corner. As children return to their classrooms, we, here at the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, continue to feel the impact the increased cost of living is creating for our neighbors who are trying to make ends meet. As we share in this newsletter, the effects of the pandemic linger and every day we hear the stories of community members whose budgets are stretched now, more than ever. With more than a 15% increase in those needing our help, we are working to support families across our region.

With kids back in school, Kids Cafe will offer free meals to students through the after school program five days a week. School pantries are stocked and ready to support students and families throughout the school year.

I am also excited to share that we have a variety of activities coming up in September in support of Hunger Action Month. I am always reminded how caring our community is as we rally together with small efforts that add up to significant impact. Please stay tuned for fun and impactful ways to get involved to combat hunger, right here in our region. Follow our social media and visit our website for the latest Hunger Action Month events. I look forward to seeing you there.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Nicole Lamboley, President and CEO
This Makes a Huge Difference for Us

My name is Holly, and my family lives in the Reno area. My husband is a long-haul truck driver, and I stay home with our four children.

We first discovered the Food Bank’s programs at the height of the pandemic in 2020. I began visiting Mobile Harvest occasionally, and it was so helpful! Last summer, we all got sick with COVID, and my husband became very ill. He ended up hospitalized on a vent, and we were left uncertain of whether he would survive. Six-months later, he finally got to come home. We are so thankful for his miraculous recovery.

As you can imagine, this has put significant stress on our family. It’s now been a year since he first got sick, and he hasn’t been released to return to work yet. We’re hoping he will be very soon. In the meantime, we have no household income. We’re fortunate to have family who are able to help us with many of our household bills, and we receive some help through SNAP (food stamps) as well. Still, we’ve struggled to be able to cover all our expenses, especially now with so many costs rising.

We are visiting Mobile Harvest every week, and we’ve been getting meals for all of the kids from the Kids Cafe program this summer. I also sometimes visit some of the partner food pantries the Food Bank staff have told me about. Together, this has made a huge difference in being able to have all of the food we need for our family. With growing kids and a husband still recovering, knowing I can put together nutritious meals for all of us is such a relief.

“Our family has been through so much this past year. I am truly grateful we didn’t have to also worry about how we were going to have the food we need. Thank you for helping my family.” –Holly

Sue has been the volunteer pantry coordinator at the Desert Heights Elementary School Food Pantry since they first opened their doors nearly 10 years ago. A few years later, her friend Brad joined her one day, and he’s been helping her run the pantry ever since, along with a group of other dedicated volunteers. Twice a month, including during school breaks, the pantry opens its doors to serve both school families and others in the community in need of food assistance. Last year, they provided almost 28,000 meals to 550 families.

This past year, the pantry volunteers were excited to have the opportunity to receive a commercial refrigerator and freezer from funding made available through the Food Bank. “It couldn’t have come at a better time,” Brad says. Like most of our partners and Food Bank direct-service programs, the pantry has seen a significant uptick in the number of families turning to them for assistance over the past several months. The extra refrigeration space makes it possible for them to stock more product at the pantry, ensuring that they are ready and able to serve all who visit during their twice-monthly distributions.

“I’ve never been to a food pantry here before. Our budget is tight, but we typically can get by. We’ve had some big, unexpected expenses these past few weeks, and I didn’t know what we were going to do. I know Sue personally, and she kept telling me I should come visit the pantry. So, today I broke down and came. I’m so glad I did. It’s hard not to cry looking at all this wonderful food and knowing how much it will help. It’s such a blessing this is here to help us while we get back on our feet – I feel like a huge weight was just lifted off of me.” –Sarah, mother of two
Helping Families in Difficult Times

Having enough nutritious food for your family is important for all of us. Anastasha and Holly are both so grateful that we have been able to offer them enough healthy food for their children, with your support. With rising costs of food, gas, rent and more, families are facing difficult choices every day. Your support allows these families the gift of not having to make those choices and having the food they need on the table. This food brings them hope as well as nourishment and you are the one who makes it happen. Thank you!

*With every $1 providing 3 meals for guests served by Food Bank programs, your gift has the power to make a tremendous difference.*

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

Thank You

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

- Albertsons Companies Foundation
- Morgan Stanley Grant via Feeding America
- Cargill Grant via Feeding America
- International Paper/Reno Molded Fiber
- Wilbur May Foundation
- Nevada State Bank
- Marguerite Wattis Petersen Foundation
- PG&E
- Nell J. Redfield Foundation
- John Ben Snow Memorial Trust
- Whitt Family Foundation

Hunger Action Month

Every September, members of Feeding America come together for Hunger Action Month to raise awareness not only of the issue of food insecurity, but of the incredible impact our communities can have when we take action together.

Strike Out Hunger, Nevada! Challenge with Reno Aces vs Las Vegas Aviators Battle Born Burger Showcase-Showdown Feed NV Community Food Drive | 12th Annual Run on Tuna Food Drive

9/23 is Hunger Action Day - **GO ORANGE** with us!

Wear orange and let others know why fighting hunger is important to you.


There are so many ways to get involved with the Food Bank during Hunger Action Month, we couldn’t possibly fit them all here. Visit our website for a full list of all the great things happening throughout the month, including special volunteer opportunities, partnerships with local businesses, and more.

FBNN.org/HAM

Yes, Nicole! I want to provide meals and hope for families across northern Nevada and the eastern California Sierra.

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

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

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

MY PHONE NUMBER IS: _____

CARD NUMBER SECURITY #

SIGNATURE EXP. DATE

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

Please make your check payable to: Food Bank of Northern Nevada 550 Italy Drive | Sparks, NV 89437

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**

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