Donor spotlight

Food Bank Lifer Establishes Endowment Fund

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“The volume the Food Bank handles now is probably four times where we were when I joined the board,” Steve recalls, “We didn’t even distribute perishable foods back then!” Today, Steve is excited to share that we have a fleet of 17 trucks that deliver meals throughout the community, and families and seniors are being connected to benefits and resources they need through our Help Center and outreach efforts.

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Through it all, Steve is proud of the way in which the Food Bank has become a much more sophisticated organization. The distribution of food, our programs, and connecting members of our community to employment, housing and healthcare are the largest solutions to the struggle with hunger.

“I’m impressed by the efficiency of the Food Bank’s operation,” Steve says. As he puts it, “Where else but this Food Bank could you give $1 and provide four full meals?” In short, Steve recognizes an unbeatable value when he sees one—and an opportunity to make a lasting difference. That’s why, following his recent retirement, Steve decided to ensure support of the Food Bank through a family-named endowment fund.

Making a Difference That Lasts

“My colleagues offered to host a retirement celebration,” Steve says. “It sounded really nice, but I preferred to use the money in a more lasting way,” he added. Instead, he asked his colleagues, friends, and family to contribute to a fund in his family’s name in the Food Bank’s endowment—and his employer, Grant Thornton, generously matched every donation.

Steve hopes that his story will inspire others to think about the future of the Food Bank. “Perhaps it will motivate them to offer their long-term support,” too, he says. He takes comfort in knowing that his fund will live on in perpetuity, continuing to provide meals and hope for people struggling with hunger well into the future.

To contribute or create a named endowment of your own, contact Kristen Glazer, Senior Manager of Donor Relations at KGlazer@ClevelandFoodBank.org or 216.738.2056.

Three Ways to Create a Legacy

1. Gift in Your Will
   Designate the Greater Cleveland Food Bank as the beneficiary of a specific monetary gift in your will, or a percent or residue of your estate. (Please see page 3 for more information.)

2. Retirement Assets
   Your IRA, 401(k), 403(b), and other retirement accounts cannot only fight hunger in our community—they may also lower taxes for your other beneficiaries.

3. Life Insurance
   When you make the Greater Cleveland Food Bank the owner and beneficiary of your life insurance policy, your premium payments are tax deductible.

The information provided in Tomorrow's Harvest is not professional tax or legal advice. Please consult an advisor about your specific situation. If you have any questions, you and/or your attorney and financial advisors are invited to contact Kristen Glazer (please see contact information above).

From Surviving to Thriving

Thanks to your support, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank brings a truck full of food to schools across Northeast Ohio each month. From there it’s distributed to the families of students like Avah, Logan, Finley and Foster as well as others in the community.

Things are looking up for Sherell and her family. Her son recently found a better-paying job. Soon, this family won’t need the help. In the meantime, your support helps see them through a rough patch.

When you join Tomorrow’s Harvest, the planned giving society of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, you’ll ensure many more families will get the help they need for years to come.

No purchase necessary. For more information, visit GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org.

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What Local Hunger Looks Like

Hunger remains a critical issue across Northeast Ohio. Thankfully, you’re part of the growing solution. When you join Tomorrow’s Harvest, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank’s planned giving society, you’ll make an even greater, longer-lasting impact to give these struggling neighbors the food they need. In time, your support can help them achieve self-sufficiency.

Here’s a quick snapshot of the people we serve through our partner agencies:

- 24% are children
- 16% are elderly
- 23% of households have at least one member in poor health
- 62% had to choose between paying for food or medicine
- 75% have incomes below the federal poverty level

Meeting the Back-to-School Need

Kristin Warzocha, President & CEO

For hardworking parents across Northeast Ohio, August marks a time of transition. It’s back-to-school season at last. Gone are the long days of summer, when moms and dads scrimped and saved just to compensate for the increased cost of daycare.

Still, the school year brings its own set of unique challenges — especially for the working poor in our community. Try as they might, parents can’t always put enough food in the cupboards to make it through the weekends.

That’s why I’m especially grateful for your support this season. As a compassionate friend of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, you’re supporting vital programs like BackPacks for Kids.

Thanks to you, we’re able to partner with local after-school programs and provide kids with wholesome food to take home over the weekend. And how’s this for efficiency? Just $4 provides enough food to last a child through to Monday morning!

I know you’ll agree that growing kids should never be forced to miss a meal. With your ongoing help, they won’t have to. Please take a moment to consider joining the Food Bank’s legacy giving society, Tomorrow’s Harvest. It’s the single best way to make a lasting difference for hungry families in Northeast Ohio.

Thank you, as always, for going above and beyond to help solve the hunger of our community, too!

Steve, whose story appears on page 4 of this newsletter, you’ll have a resounding success in 2018! This year, you helped:

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What Local Hunger Looks Like

Your Hunger-Fighting Legacy Begins Here

Are you interested in helping to solve the hunger problem in Northeast Ohio while also freeing up more of your assets from estate taxes? If so, consider designating a gift to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank in your will.

The process is easy and revocable (meaning, you can change your mind) — and almost always includes significant tax savings for your loved ones. Because these gifts include a portion of your life’s work, you can make an incredible impact and leave a lasting legacy for hungry people.

If you would like to include the Greater Cleveland Food Bank in your will, please share the good news (or any questions or concerns) with our Senior Manager of Donor Relations, Kristen Glazer. You can reach her at KGlazer@ClevelandFoodBank.org or 216.738.2056.

Then, give this sample bequest language to your attorney:

“I give, devise, and bequeath to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, tax identification number 34-1292848, 15500 South Waterloo Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44110 (insert percentage, amount or nature of gift, or remainder of estate) to be used for programs and services that fight hunger.” (If you don’t have an estate planning attorney, Kristen can provide several names for you, too.)

Driven to Make a Difference

Nelson, a friendly Food Bank distribution driver, clearly loves his work. You can see it in the smile on his face. But what fuels Nelson’s passion for delivering nutritious food? The answer is simple: he has a huge heart for the children we serve.

“I like knowing that the children will be fed, and that they won’t go hungry,” Nelson says. “It’s one less thing their parents have to worry about, too.”

Nelson’s also grateful for kind friends like you, whose donations ensure our fleet of 17 trucks can deliver food efficiently across our six county service area. “People don’t always see what a big issue hunger is. But you do. So thank you for helping in any way you can!”

“I like knowing that the children will be fed, and that they won’t go hungry.” — NELSON

Summer Feeding Report Card

Your steadfast support made our Summer Feeding Program a resounding success in 2018! This year, you helped:

- Provide more than 270,000 meals
- Serve up a more nutritious, kid-friendly menu packed with fruits and veggies
- Empower kids to make healthy decisions through nutrition education
- Promote regular exercise through access to fun summertime activities at our 10 partner sites
- And so much more thanks to you!

Backpack girl’s photo client supplied

Nelson’s photo client supplied

Kristin Warzocha, President & CEO

Back-packing, (Nelson) 20180907_fb_0518_smart_cmyk.psd from Scott Streble

Simple Will

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Please create a legacy that fights hunger in Cleveland and across Northeast Ohio by including the Greater Cleveland Food Bank in your will. Thank you!
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You Brought This Family Hope by the Truckload

Afternoons should be a joy for Sherell. That’s when she makes the short trip from home to pick up her three grandchildren from Marian C. Seltzer Elementary School. First comes Avah — a 5-year-old bundle of energy — chased closely by her 6-year-old twin brothers Finley and Foster. Just seeing them brings a smile to Sherell’s face. But deep down, she worries. Have they gotten enough to eat today? Do we have enough in the refrigerator to fix a complete dinner? Did that little yawn mean Avah had trouble concentrating in class?

Sherrill’s son and daughter-in-law work hard to support the family, but it’s not always enough. So each month, when the School Market program rolls around, Sherrell feels a tremendous sense of relief. “When the market opens, I know my grandchildren will have well-balanced meals for days,” Sherrell says. “They offer healthy stuff that kids will actually eat. My grandkids like the bananas and celery best of all. I mean, they’d rather have vegetables than candy!”

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