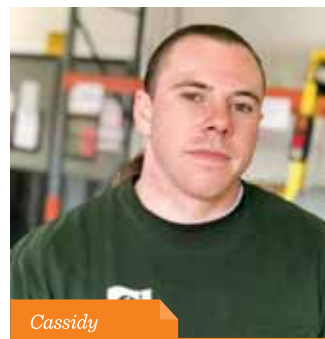


Alleviating hunger by creating access to food

FFLC NAMED EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

FFLC was named Employer of the Year by the National Indian and Native American Employment Training Council, thanks to a partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz's Work Experience (WEX) program and FFLC's job training program.

"FFLC has built a rich partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz's Work Experience program," said FFLC Education Programs Manager Carrie Copeland. "We've hired several WEX participants to work as drivers and warehouse staff members over the years, and recently we've worked with several WEX participants in our job training program. It's exciting to have such a win-win partnership that both FFLC and the Tribes are excited about."



Cassidy

Cassidy recently completed the WEX program at FFLC. He said working at FFLC changed the trajectory of where he sees his life going.

"Looking for jobs was discouraging," said Cassidy. "You try a few times but don't get the job you are looking for. You get stressed, but you need to get by. In the past I wasn't doing good things to make money, so I was teetering on the edge of whether to go do the bad things. I found this program, and now I'm on track."

H IS FOR HUNGER

The link between learning and adequate nutrition is well established for K-12 students. But in higher education, hunger remains largely hidden and misunderstood.

FFLC is working with the University of Oregon to raise awareness and find innovative solutions to address hunger on campus.

"The University of Oregon recognizes the importance of proper nutrition and that having enough food contributes to [a student's] academic success," said Kris Winter, UO Associate Vice President and Dean of Students.

"The UO has made so much progress in such a short amount of time," said FFLC Community Engagement and Advocacy Coordinator Kara Smith, who is advocating for students at the state level. But barriers to college student food security remain. Access to SNAP for SNAP-eligible college students remains difficult and widely underutilized.

Eligibility rules for SNAP and other assistance programs are based on outdated assumptions of who a college student is, such as the notion that most college students attend four-year colleges with parental support. Three out of four students defy traditional stereotypes. Only 13% of students live on college campuses, half attend community colleges. One in four students is a parent juggling child care responsibilities with class assignments and 75% work while in school, including a significant number who work full-time.

Many students in Oregon are eligible for SNAP but aren't participating. Of the 220,000 undergraduate students in Oregon, 47,000 are under 130% of the federal poverty level and working 20 or more hours a week. It's estimated that 72% of this population qualify for SNAP but are not enrolled. That's an estimated \$51 million federal funds left on the table that could help students succeed in classes and boost local economies.

with FFLC and Trillium Produce Plus, the UO Student Sustainability Center's new monthly program provides fresh produce for students in need.

FFLC's Nutrition Education Program and the UO's Duck Nest Wellness Center are also working together to provide low-income students nutrition classes that promote healthy eating on a budget. FFLC provides instructional materials including food to prepare in the class and take-home ingredient bags for each student to make recipes prepared in class.

HUNGER ON CAMPUS

In conjunction with the Governor's State Employees Food Drive in February, the University of Oregon partnered with FFLC to raise \$3,700 for the Episcopal Campus Ministry Student Pantry. The pantry is open to all college students in the greater Eugene area and serves close to 200 students a week.

The pantry is just one way FFLC, with your support, is partnering with the UO to address hunger on campus. In partnership



Brad Bassi, Mark Beauchamp and Mike Sullivan

CAFÉ YUMM! SHARES BUMPER CROP OF BEANS

In March, FFLC and the Oregon Food Bank statewide network of food banks received 47 pallets — nearly 95,000 pounds — of dried black beans from Café Yumm!. These beans are headed around the state to help fight hunger. Café Yumm! is a long-time donor to FFLC, and this generous gift will provide tens of thousands of meals to families in need.

"The fundamental reason we are in the restaurant business is nourishment — to nourish humanity and the world," said Café Yumm! President, CEO and Co-Founder Mark Beauchamp. "It goes hand in hand with people who don't have resources, and we need to nourish them as well. From the beginning, we have always donated to FOOD for Lane County, even before we were Café Yumm!. It's fundamental to what we do, and this is just a highlight of that relationship over many years."

"Our partnership with Café Yumm! and the Beauchamps goes back many years," said FFLC Food Resource Developer Brad Bassi. "It's heartwarming to see how they have supported the food bank financially and with food donations. We can always count on Café Yumm! for quality donations."

The beans were grown in central Oregon on a farm Café Yumm! is helping to transition from traditional growing methods to all organic practices. The timing of the donation coincides with a bumper crop and the restaurant's move to a larger warehouse. Of the 47 pallets of beans, 26 pallets will be repackaged by FFLC volunteers and distributed through FFLC's partner agencies in Lane County. The remaining 21 pallets will be distributed through the Oregon Food Bank statewide network of food banks.

A VAST AND VARIED NETWORK OF SUPPORT

Food donations keep emergency food pantry shelves around Lane County stocked — from Florence to Oakridge and Junction City to Cottage Grove. We rely on food donations from a variety of sources, including wholesalers and retail grocery stores, farms, food drives, restaurants, companies and individuals. More than 60% of the nearly 8 million pounds of food we distributed last year came from local donors. We are so grateful for the enthusiastic and generous support. Thank you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, May 3

Empty Bowls Sale at the Dining Room, 270 W. 8th Ave, Eugene, 4-7pm

Saturday, May 11

National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive

Saturday, May 11

Summer Plant Sale at The Youth Farm, 705 Flamingo Ave, Springfield, 10am-4pm

Thursday, June 6

Farm Stand opens at Sacred Heart at RiverBend, 3333 Riverbend Dr, Springfield, weekly 2pm-6pm

Saturday, June 8

Farm Stand opens at The Youth Farm, 705 Flamingo Ave, Springfield, weekly 10am-2pm

Monday, June 24

Summer Food Program starts most sites

Sunday, July 28

FFLC Day at the Lane County Fair, get in free with 3 cans of food, 11am-1pm

More info online at foodforlanecounty.org/events.

FOLLOW US



FOOD *for* THOUGHT

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2019

Alleviating hunger by creating access to food



Beverlee Potter

FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY

770 Bailey Hill Road
Eugene, OR 97402
(541) 343-2822

VISION

To eliminate hunger in Lane County

MISSION

To alleviate hunger by creating access to food

We accomplish our mission by soliciting, collecting, rescuing, growing, preparing and packaging food for distribution through a countywide network of social service agencies and programs, and through public awareness, education and community advocacy.

VALUES

Compassion, inclusion, collaboration

Editor: Denise Wendt

Design: Amy Renée Design

IN GOOD HANDS

In June, I will retire from FFLC. I have been here 11 years, nine of those as Executive Director. I've loved my job. I've loved working with our staff and our volunteer board of directors. I've loved our volunteers and our donors and our many, many partners. And I have loved this community — your generous support for the work we do and your commitment to easing hunger for our neighbors in need.

At FFLC we know that the economy has improved for some but not for everyone. Too many of our neighbors still live paycheck to paycheck. That is why we are so grateful for your continued support and your partnership, because this work is work we do together to strengthen the communities in which we all live — and there is more work to be done.

I am hopeful and excited for the future of this organization. FFLC is in good hands, and we look forward to what new leadership will bring. With your support for FFLC and your compassion for the people we serve, we will continue to find innovative solutions to hunger in Lane County together.

Thank you for generously supporting the work we do with your gifts of money, food and time. You are supporting critical programs that provide food, education and job training to thousands of Lane County households in need.

Thank you for letting me take this journey with you. It has truly been my pleasure to serve.

Beverlee Potter, Executive Director

YOUR GIFT MATTERS

Every dollar, every pound, every hour you donate helps people in Lane County — your neighbors and ours — who turn to FFLC for help. We rely on financial support from donors like you. Give today at foodforlanecounty.org.



YOUR GIFT PROVIDES NEEDED RELIEF

In Lane County, 44% of households do not earn enough to cover their basic needs. This is according to Lane County's 2016 ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report. More than a third (37%) of Lane County residents qualify for an emergency food box (Census 2016).

Food assistance provides relief large and small to families and individuals facing hunger. To understand why people turn to us for help, we survey food pantry users. The Hunger Factors Survey informs and shapes our efforts to alleviate hunger. When asked how a food box helped, survey respondents offered many reasons. Here are a just a few.

63% of survey respondents say that when they add food they get from a pantry to their food supply they are able to meet their household's food needs for the month.

59% of respondents say access to a food pantry allows them to prepare and eat healthier meals.

Because they have access to emergency food, **33%** of respondents are able to pay rent or mortgage, **37%** are able to pay utility bills and **15%** are able to get the medicine they need.

24% of respondents have more energy for work and family, and **12%** are able to focus on a job search.

Source: Hunger Factors Survey, March 2018

CHEFS' NIGHT OUT CELEBRATES 29 YEARS

Over the years, your support of Chefs' Night Out has raised nearly \$3 million, providing almost 9 million meals for Lane County families and individuals experiencing hunger. Thank you to the many restaurants, wineries, breweries, caterers, musicians, volunteers, guests and sponsors who make this event a huge success year after year.

THANK YOU, SPONSORS

King Estate Winery & Restaurant, Title Sponsor • The West Family • Jerry's Home Improvement Center • Hayden Homes • PacificSource Health Plans • Curtis Restaurant Equipment • PakTech • Timber Products Company • Reynolds Electric Inc • Sysco • NW Natural • Umpqua Bank • Bulk Handling Systems • Dari Mart Inc • KPD Insurance • McDonald Wholesale • PeaceHealth • The UPS Store • Toby's Family Foods & Genesis Juice

Best Vegetarian Bite Honorable Mention: Lion & Owl • Best Sweet Bite Winners (tie): Provisions Market Hall and King Estate Winery & Restaurant • Best Sweet Bite Honorable Mention: Network Charter School Culinary Arts Program • Best Savory Bite Winner: Lion & Owl • Best Savory Bite Honorable Mention: The Excelsior Inn & Restaurant • Peoples' Choice Award Winner: King Estate Winery & Restaurant • People's Choice Award Honorable Mention: MLK Culinary Arts & Catering • Mike West Overall Best Bite Winner: Lion & Owl

WEST FAMILY CULINARY AWARD

Congratulations to Kathleen Noll and Rebekah Glenn, winners of the 2019 West Family Culinary Award to inspire and encourage the next generation of chefs. Recipients receive \$2,000 each.

CONGRATULATIONS, 2019 BEST BITE WINNERS

Best Presentation & Hospitality Winner: Provisions Market Hall • Best Presentation & Hospitality Honorable Mention: King Estate Winery & Restaurant • Best Vegetarian Bite Winner: First National Taphouse •

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LEARNING TO THRIVE

Nathan is 25 and lives in Cottage Grove with his twin boys, who turned four in April. After completing FFLC's warehouse training program last year, Nathan got a job at Starfire Lumber Co. in Cottage Grove just as he was assuming sole custody of his children. Starfire has been a great place for Nathan. He started "pulling wood, like everybody else," but quickly became a supervisor.

"I'm currently supervising the chain," Nathan says. "I love it. It's close to my house, and everything's in my little town."

Nathan credits FFLC's job training program for giving him the skills he needed to not just survive but to thrive. At FFLC Nathan gained useful experiences, from managing people to operating a forklift.

"My DHS worker suggested the FFLC program for me. I thought it was right up my alley, so I went with it. I always wanted to learn something new. You guys do a lot for the community, and I think that's really cool."

It was FFLC's job training program that made the difference for Nathan's family. His job helps him care for his two boys, and he's proud to have a good job, "that I can work hard at and retire at. Benefits, healthcare, 401k — so blessed." He hopes that he can be a good role model for his boys.

"I want them to learn responsibility and to save money," he says. "I wish someone would have taught me at a young age to save money. I try to save what I can. If I was more prepared, I'd put a percentage away from my check each time. I'm living and learning."

At \$525 per child per month, the cost of child care takes half of Nathan's paycheck. "Then there's rent, car insurance, gas. It all adds up."

But this dad is undaunted. Nathan sees a bright future at his current employer.



Nathan and sons

WAYS TO DONATE



DONATE ONLINE
foodforlanecounty.org/donate



MAIL GIFTS
770 Bailey Hill Road
Eugene, Oregon 97402



CALL
(541) 343-2822

EMPTY BOWLS SALE

Join us Friday, May 3, at The Dining Room for the Empty Bowls Sale, presented by Northwest Community Credit Union. We will have more than 1,000 bowls for sale starting at \$10, all made by local artists. Each bowl purchased includes a coupon for a free bowl of soup at a participating restaurant.

Thank you to Northwest Community Credit Union, Georgies Ceramic and Clay Co., KMTR and Bumble Graphics for your support.

Friday, May 3 • 4pm to 7pm

FFLC's The Dining Room
270 W 8th Ave, Eugene

Presented by



HERE'S HOW YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE

Every dollar, every pound, every hour helps people in Lane County — your neighbors and ours — who turn to us for help. We rely on financial support from donors like you. For every dollar donated, FOOD for Lane County can access and distribute enough food to provide three meals. Here's what you made possible in 2018.



6 MILLION
meals provided



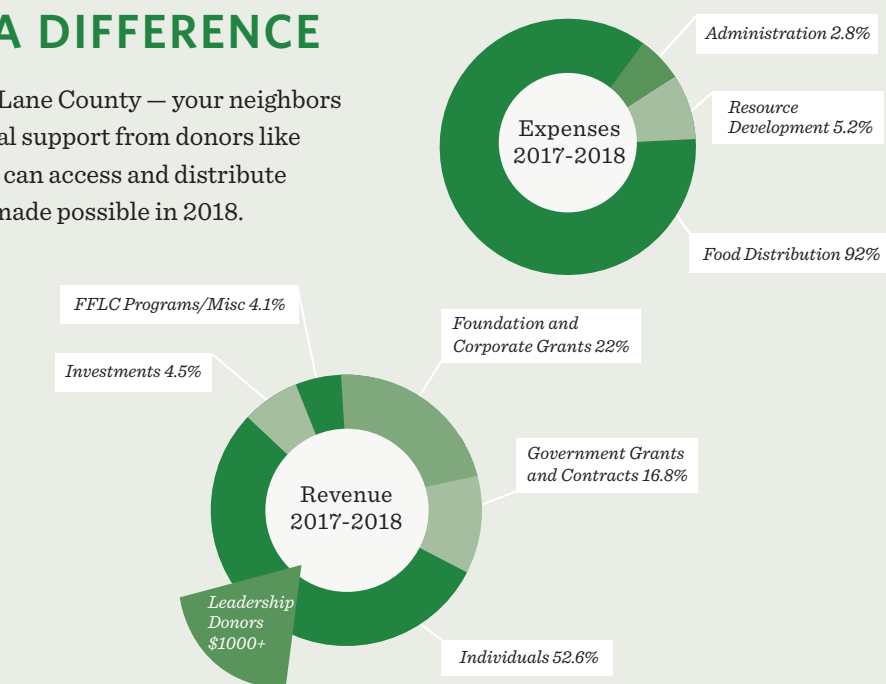
7.6 MILLION
lbs of food distributed



74,000
volunteer hours



27
job trainees



Grilled Cheese Experience



Dutch Luu



Goodwill

BECAUSE NO ONE SHOULD BE HUNGRY

A recent study by the Fundraising Effectiveness Project, which tracks giving from more than 4,500 charities, revealed that giving to nonprofits in 2018 did not keep up with inflation. In fact, nearly all other measures — gifts smaller than \$1,000, new donors and donor retention — declined last year.

FFLC experienced similar declines in 2018 and headed into 2019 short of our fundraising goal. Our recent "Food is Love" match campaign was vital in getting us back on track. In February, all donations to FFLC were matched up to \$100,000 thanks to a generous grant from a donor-advised fund from the Oregon Community Foundation.

We want to thank all of our supporters — those who gave in February, those who give every month and those who give what they can, when they can. Together we ensure that anyone needing help will receive it, because we believe "no one should be hungry."

Thank you to our sponsors, the 26 participating restaurants and everyone who contributed to the **5th Annual Grilled Cheese**

Experience, presented by Kendall Cares. The event raised more than \$21,000.

In Lane County, the **Governor's State Employees Food Drive** raised over \$32,000 and 6,182 pounds of food. Thank you to the University of Oregon, Department of Human Services District 5, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Justice Child Support, State Police Forensics, Oregon OSHA, Department of Higher Education, Department of Forestry and ODOT.

Thank you also to these schools for participating in the **Love Your Neighbor/Feed Your Neighbor School Food Drive**. Springfield Learning Tree, Corridor, Thurston Elementary, Bertha Holt, Prairie Mountain, Family School/Chinese Immersion, Emerald Christian Academy, Kelly Middle, Monroe Middle, Charlemagne, and Spring Creek. Together you raised a total of 3,719 pounds of food and \$278.

