



# LDS CHURCH DONATES 40,000 POUNDS OF FOOD

In September, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints donated 40,000 pounds of food — a semi-truck full — to FFLC. Spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, flour, pork & beans and more — food that will go a long way in helping hundreds of families and individuals throughout Lane County experiencing food insecurity this winter.

"This donation came at the perfect time," said FFLC Logistics and Food Resource Manager Brad Bassi. "We usually see an increase in service in the fall and winter months when heating bills are higher. People who are right on the edge may get to this time of year and experience a month or two of hardship. This food can help them weather those lean months."

Since March 2020, the LDS Church has donated nearly two dozen semi-trailers of food throughout Oregon to help families during the pandemic — including 158,751 pounds to FFLC.

"We can all find ways to help those in need," said Jeff Robinson, a local spokesperson for the LDS Church in Eugene. "There

are tremendous needs in our community right now, and we're grateful to partner with FOOD For Lane County to bring comfort and hope to our neighbors."

"We've had a challenging time sourcing food through food drives, which are down 80 to 85% because of the pandemic," said Brad. "We're moving a lot of food, but drives provide a variety of food that we can't source any other way. This food helps us fill that gap."

"Families rely on this kind of variety to put together meals," added Brad. "So a donation like this that has a wide variety of items is remarkable. There aren't a lot of organizations with the resources to be able to do this. We're very grateful."



THANK YOU FOR VOTING FFLC YOUR FAVORITE NONPROFIT IN THE **REGISTER GUARD 2021 READERS' CHOICE AWARDS!** 

# **PUTTING YOUR DOLLARS TO WORK**

It's been an especially difficult year for so many people in our community. When you donate to FFLC, we put your dollars to work immediately to help Lane County families and individuals experiencing food insecurity. Your gift is used where it is

Now you have a opportunty to support current FFLC programs and services while helping us build capacity for years to come through our Building to Serve capital campaign. To learn more and to make a gift, go to SupportFFLC.org.

Here are some of the ways you can directly impact our mission.



\$30 Provides meals for a child for a month

Delivers groceries to a senior for a year Provides one nutrition education class for eight students

\$120 Provides meals for a family of four for a month

**\$160** Provides meals for one Dining Room guest for a year **\$250** Provides a new job trainee with work boots, gloves and apparel

**\$500** Provides two weeks of wages for a Youth Farmer

# KING ESTATE DONATES BUMPER **CROPS OF PEARS, APPLES TO FFLC**

King Estate Winery donated 90% of its orchard harvest to FFLC this fall — 15,000 pounds of Bartlett pears and 7,000 pounds of Gala, Golden Delicious and Braeburn apples. That's amazing news for the families and individuals we serve, because fresh produce is one of the most expensive food items.

"This is more fruit than I have ever seen harvested here at our orchards," said Erin Greene, Culinary Gardens Manager at King Estate. "We harvested at a great time for long-term storage capability. I would guess they can hold for one or two months in cold storage."

All the fruit will be made available to FFLC's partner agencies for distribution to their clients.

"We're extremely grateful to King Estate for this donation and for all they do for FOOD For Lane County and the people we serve," said Kara Smith, FFLC Food Resource Developer.

"King Estate's partnership with FOOD For Lane County is one of the most rewarding aspects of my job here," said Erin. "I'm thankful to FOOD For Lane County for organizing the pickup and the distribution of all this beautiful organic fruit to the people who need it most."

# LANE COUNTY LEGISLATORS HELP **FUND FFLC CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Thank you to the Oregon Legislature for authorizing \$2.1 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the FFLC Bailey Hill Road renovation work. The contract finalizing this grant is still in process as of early October. We want to give special thanks to the following Lane County legislators who pooled their ARPA allocations to support this project: Oregon State Representatives Paul Holvey, Marty Wilde, Nancy Nathanson and Julie Fahey and Oregon State Senators Floyd Prozanski, Lee Beyer and James I. Manning Jr.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

October 19 Take a Bite Out of Hunger KVAL's Take a Bite Out of Hunger is back and in person at area Bi-Marts. Watch our website for more info.

#### October 23-31

Haunted Market at 5th Street Market

#### November 12 and 13 Stuff the Bus

Mark your calendar now for Stuff the Bus! 104.7 KDUK. US 101 and LTD will be at Walmart stores in Eugene and Springfield. Help us fill the bus with food! Watch our website for more info.

#### November 20 Letter Carriers' Food Drive

The Letter Carriers' Food Drive is back! Watch your mailbox for the yellow bag and reminder postcard. Leave a bag of nonperishable food by your mailbox early on November 20. We'll pick it up!

#### **November 25** Turkey Trot

This Thanksgiving, sign up your family to run, walk or waddle for hunger relief. A portion of all registration fees benefit FFLC.

More events and more information at foodforlacounty.org/events and on Facebook at facebook.com/foodforlanecounty.

# **FOLLOW US**









■ NEWSLETTER ■ FALL 2021

FOOD for THOUGHT

Donate online at foodforlane county.org/donate

#### **FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY**

Make a gift at SupportFFLC.org

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

#### MISSION

To reduce hunger by engaging our community to create 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.

### VISION

To end hunger in Lane County

FOOD For Lane County is an equal opportunity provider.

Editor: Denise Wendt Design: Amy Renée Design

# BUILDING CAPACITY FOR THE FUTURE

As early as 2015, we knew that we were running out of essential operational space and critical cold storage to accommodate an increasing supply of perishable food. In 2017, we were forced to turn away 1 million pounds of perishable food because we lacked refrigerator and freezer capacity. The lack of space also limited our ability to add new partner agencies, essential to expanding our distribution network and serving more

In response, in 2017 FFLC launched what has become the \$9.5 million Building to Serve capital campaign to expand our capacity to collect and distribute food through more than 160 partner agencies. To date, we have secured \$9 million in commitments.

Generous donors helped us complete Phase 1 of our campaign, the purchase and renovation of our new West Broadway Distribution Center. This additional warehouse opened in September 2019 and proved indispensable in 2020 as we responded to emergencies and unpredictable demands created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Holiday Farm Fire. The new space allowed us to quickly deploy mobile pantries during the COVID shutdown and deliver 70,000 pounds of food to the McKenzie River area to assist residents impacted by the fire.

We are now engaged in Phase 2 of our capital campaign — updating, renovating and improving our Bailey Hill Road facility. The updated Bailey Hill Receiving & Volunteer Center will feature a new walk-in refrigerator and cool room, which will allow us to collect, store, clean and sort more donated perishable food. In addition, the renovated facility will allow us to increase work space and support for the volunteers who are so critical to everything we do, as well as create new meeting and training space for our 160+ partner agencies. All of these improvements will expand our capacity to collect and distribute food to our neighbors in need.

To learn more about our Building to Serve capital campaign or to make a gift, please go to supportFFLC.org or call (541) 343-2822.

FOOD for THOUGHT ■ FALL 2021 DONATE ONLINE AT FOODFORLANECOUNTY.ORG/DONATE



#### **EMPTY BOWLS AUCTION RAISES 750,000 MEALS**

FFLC's 18th Annual Empty Bowls Auction on September 9 raised \$250,000 — enough to provide 750,000 meals for neighbors in need. The event was presented by Hawes Group and chaired by Mark and Diana Bray.

"We were honored to be the chairs of this year's event and are so grateful to all of the volunteers, donors, sponsors and staff for their support to ensure such a fabulous outcome!" said Diana.

The all-virtual event brought together hundreds of FFLC supporters who danced, sang, bid - and outbid - each other from the comfort of their homes to raise money for hunger relief in Lane County.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the night a success. Your generosity will provide help and hope long after the event. Whether you placed a winning bid on an auction item, donated a community impact item, gave an item for auction or volunteered behind the scenes, it all contributed to the auction's success.

Thank you to Marion Sweeney for matching up to \$10,000 in Community Impact gifts. Thank you also to these sponsors (in alphabetical order) for their generous and continued support.

Title Sponsor Hawes Group • American Medical Concepts Amy Renée Design • Bo's Wine Depot • Café Yumm! • CBT Nuggets Fred Meyer Jewelers • High Performance Audio Visual • Kaiser Permanente • Kendall Subaru • King Estate Winery • KPD Insurance and CopperPoint Solutions • Moss Adams • Murphy Company • Northwest Community Credit Union • Oakway Catering • PakTech • Parties To Go • QSL Print Communications • Roseburg Forest Products • Slocum Center for Orthopedics & Sports Medicine • Timber Products Company • Voorhees & Associates • Zion Ideas

We eagerly look forward to the 19th Annual Empty Bowls Auction in 2022 when we can hopefully gather in person to make history and raise one million meals.

# FFLC MOURNS THE LOSS OF FREDDIE TRYK

We were saddened to learn about the death of former long-time FFLC staff member Freddie Tryk, who died in July.

As operations manager from 1989 to 2003, Freddie was instrumental in FFLC's growth from a fledgling food bank to the agency it is today.

"She was a mentor to staff and volunteers," said

former Operations Manager Ron Detwiler. "She was always focused on the work, always looking for ways we could work together to do a better job for the client."

Sheyla Norte was volunteer coordinator at FFLC for 21 years. "Freddie saw the good in everybody and made you feel like you were important."

"Freddie is the reason I spent 22 years at FFLC," said Cheryl Crumbley, former director of marketing and communications. "She was definitely working in the right industry. I never saw her lose her deep sense of compassion for the people we were serving."

"Freddie was a force of positivity," said FFLC Gardens Program Manager Jen Anonia. "She loved to shower people with kindness. Her heart was all about our mission. She was incredibly proud of FFLC and the organization that she and Caroline created together."

To FFLC founder and former Executive Director Caroline Frengle, Freddie was more than her number two. She was her best friend. "The thing about Freddie was that everybody loved her because she loved everybody. She worked closely with our partner agencies. She was very good with people. She was genuine. She made people feel special because they were special to her. I really miss her."



#### WAYS TO DONATE



**DONATE ONLINE** foodforlanecounty.org/donate



MAIL GIFTS 770 Bailey Hill Road Eugene, Oregon 97402



#### **BUILDING TO SERVE**

Now you can support current FFLC programs and services while helping us build capacity for the future through our Building to Serve capital campaign. If you would like to designate all or a portion of your gift to the campaign, simply indicate that on your check, remit envelope or in the note section of our online donation form. If you choose to not make a designation, your entire gift will be used to support current FFLC programs and services.

# **HOW WOULD YOU** LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR **NEWSLETTER?**

When it comes to getting mail from us, we want to honor your preferences. Would you prefer to receive a print copy of the newsletter, a pdf via email or either (that is, no preference)?

Please take a moment to go to foodforlanecounty.org/preferences and let us know. To link your preferences to your account, you will need the number on the bottom left corner of the 6x9 envelope in which your newsletter arrived. That is your survey ID number. Questions? Please email development@foodforlanecounty.org, or call (541) 343-2822.

### **LETTER TO READERS**



When FOOD For Lane County started back in 1984, it was because members of this community recognized the good that could be accomplished by creating a regional food bank here.

They didn't know for sure how it might work or even if this new nonprofit would be able to survive.

But they moved forward in spite of uncertainty, because it was the right thing to do.

The food bank not only survived, it thrived. By the late 1990s, FFLC had grown to the point where it needed a bigger and better facility. Once again, members of the community recognized what needed to be done, and they stepped up to make it happen. The Bailey Hill Road warehouse, office and kitchen opened in 1999.

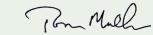
Within 15 years, FFLC was maxing out the capacity of the Bailey Hill warehouse at 8 million pounds of food per year.

This brings us to the current campaign, which will double our dry storage capacity and more than double our cold storage capacity for perishables.

But this campaign is not really about warehouses and equipment. It's about people — the 70,000+ people who seek food assistance from one of our 160+ partner agencies every year, the 4,000+ volunteers who give arms, legs, backs and hearts to this effort and the thousands of people like you whose financial support make it all possible.

As FFLC has done at other critical points in our history, we're asking members of the community to respond. Thirty-seven years later, it's still the right thing to do.

To learn more or to make a gift, please visit supportFFLC.org.



## FOR A MILLION REASONS, WE MISS YOU

The FFLC family was saddened to learn that former long-time staff member Karen Roth had died in September. Karen wore many hats during her years at FFLC, but she is best known for her work on FFLC's Summer Food Program.

"Karen was passionate about summer lunch issues and proposing solutions to people in power. After one lunch with Representative Suzanne Bonamici, Bonamici became a National School Lunch Program champion. Karen was a true believer in how policy changes and getting involved can make real differences."  $Kara\,Smith, FFLC\,Food\,Resource\,Developer$ 

"Karen and I started on the same day in March 1999. I loved how she embraced all aspects of FFLC with such joy and passion." Jen Anonia, FFLC Gardens Program Manager

"Karen was a tireless advocate for getting food to kids and families. She testified in front of the Oregon Legislature, lobbied Lane County commissioners and was relentless in chasing policies and funding to support childhood nutrition programs. She made a huge difference in our lives and the lives of so many kids and families."  $Carrie\,Copeland, FFLC\,Programs\,and\,Education\,Director$ 

"Karen's tireless dedication to the most vulnerable people in our community was inspiring and unmatched. She was the

epitome of our values of compassion, inclusion and collaboration." Dana Baxter, FFLC Nutrition Education Program Coordinator

"Karen had a clear and profound desire for justice, particularly on behalf of children. She was a wonderful human being, and she will be greatly missed."

Roz Fox, former FFLC Programs and Services Director

"Karen was dedicated to the mission of FFLC. She made a positive impact on many lives through her service here. Our hearts go out to her family and friends."

FFLC Executive Director Tom Mulhern

# BUILDING TO SERVE SUPPORT OUR BUILDING TO SERVE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AT SUPPORTFFLC.ORG

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