

Harvest News



A publication of

Food Bank of North Alabama

FARM FOOD COLLABORATIVE

In keeping with the Food Bank of North Alabama's mission to give food to the hungry in our community, we are dedicated to finding solutions to end hunger and poverty in North Alabama. To that end, we are proud to announce the creation of the North Alabama Farm Food Collaborative!

Did you know that in the last five years, over 2000 of north Alabama's family farms have been lost? And at the same time the number of diet related diseases has increased? The North Alabama Farm Food Collaborative enables family farmers to sell locally grown fruits and vegetables to schools, workplace cafeterias, and grocery stores, therefore increasing access to healthy food choices for all residents. In fact since its soft launch in the fall of 2012, the Collaborative has facilitated over \$400,000 worth of local food sales and over 500,000 pounds of fresh healthy food choices have become available!

"The launch of the Farm Food Collaborative is a win for local farmers, a win for Alabama families trying to make healthy food choices, and a win for Alabama's economy," says Kathryn Strickland, Executive Director of the Food Bank of North Alabama.

Your support is making a difference.
Thank You!



Thanks to the Collaborative over 44,000 children had access to fresh and local sweet potatoes and apples in their school cafeterias this fall.



The impact of the Farm Food Collaborative is three-fold:

- Opens up new markets to family farms
- Creates easy access to healthy food choices for all residents
- Keeps our food dollars local

Board of Directors

President
Brandon Carrin

Vice President
Tom Panucci

Secretary
David Newberry

Treasurer
Andrea Gallagher

Directors

Taralyn Caudle
Rob Culver
Tom Cunningham
Clarissa McClain
Kathy Nelson
Scott Rogers
Byron Thomas

Staff

Executive Director

Kathryn Strickland

Facility and Food Handling Manager

Gloria Hollins

Agency/Community Relations Manager

Claire Griffin

Warehouse Manager

Gloria Hollins

Accountant

Pat Gilliland

Director of Community Food Security

Anita Daniel

Agency Service Representative

Ed Crick

Local Food Coordinator

Lee McBride

Operations Specialist

Lawrence Hollins

Food Sorting Captain

Dave Jefferson

Warehouse Staff

Julius Brown

Labeau Foster

Stephen Hollins

Todd Williams



Food Bank of North Alabama

A Member Of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**

PO Box 18607
Huntsville, AL 35804
(256) 539-2256 • www.foodbanknorthal.org

New Faces

We're pleased to welcome the following new staff members

We are pleased to welcome our new Agency/Community Relations Manager, Claire Griffin. As a Huntsville native, Claire is excited to get to know all of the 200+ agencies that partner with the Food Bank and help enable better access to healthy food. In her position Claire will continue to improve communication and collaboration between the Food Bank and our network partners to ensure fruitful relationships for years to come. She is thrilled to be a part of the Food Bank team and get to know all of partners in the North Alabama region!



Dave Jefferson is our Food Bank's first ever Food Sorting Captain. He inspects our food donations to ensure our supplies meet food safety standards. Dave joins the Food Bank after a 30+ career at the U.S. Postal Service where he volunteered for the annual Letter Carriers' Food Drive – a community-wide effort that raises over 100,000 pounds of food each year. His commitment to the community and helping others is infectious. When asked about his job, Dave says he is overjoyed to go to work every day to do a big random act of kindness. As Dave says, "it's what we're called to do."

The Food Bank & Farm-To-School

This fall the Food Bank partnered with Madison Crossroads Elementary and West Limestone High School

to launch a recipe contest among students. The contest promoted healthy, locally grown food choices and called for recipes using locally grown sweet potatoes as ingredients. Students and faculty selected each school's "Top Chef" whose winning recipes are now featured as a regular item on the school lunch menu.

High school student Haley Johnson's winning recipe of Mexican-spiced oven roasted sweet potato chips featured sweet potatoes grown by third generation farmer, Clark Haynes of Cullman County. The potato recipe was served to approximately 990 of Johnson's classmates and met all school meal nutritional requirements.

Each recipe winner received a plaque honoring their farm-to school recipe and a "top chef" t-shirt. In addition, the Food Bank and the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) presented a plaque to Limestone County and Madison County School Districts for their active participation in a statewide farm-to-school program.

The ADAI is partnering with the Food Bank of North Alabama, Alabama Farmers Federation, Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and local schools to increase access to Alabama-grown produce in school cafeterias. The Farm to School program is authorized under the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



Top Chef Haley Johnson (seated) with runner's up Shelby Runions and BreAnna Robertson from West Limestone High School



Top Chef Xavier Watson with runner's up Danielle Humphrey and Owen Boatwright from Madison Crossroads Elementary

Partner Highlight Carpenter's Cabinet Ministries

The Director of Carpenter's Cabinet Ministries, Chris Warnick, grew up seeing what poverty can do to communities and families. At 12 years old he made a lifelong resolution to help needy families become food secure. In 2009, he first met his childhood goal by helping 10 families have a Thanksgiving dinner. But he didn't stop there-with a core group of 20 volunteers, Carpenter's Cabinet Ministries grew through a strong collaboration among multiple churches and businesses and now serves over 1,500 residents a year in Morgan County. But that's not all...



The ministry was recently awarded two major grants, one from ADECA and one from Cullman County to continue their excellent hunger relief efforts at a second location in Holly Pond. "At Holly Pond, we have a big pond to open," says Chris, and the plans are big! Not only will Holly Pond be home to a food pantry, but there are discussions with regional farmers about opening a cannery as well! The new pantry is scheduled to open in mid-2015.

Even though the ministry is expanding, it certainly is closer than ever to the families who need them most. Chris and his volunteers are shining lights in Alabama and are increasing food security and alleviating the effects of poverty with steady good work. His passion for what he does is clear when you hear him talk about the people he serves, and the experiences he and Carpenter's Cabinet Ministries has had. He was 'moved to serve those in Alabama' and we are truly grateful for all the work his group has done. To learn more, visit thecarpenterscabinet.org.



Making a Difference

You're never too young to make a difference. Five-year-old Jonah Jones donated his allowance to the Food Bank of North Alabama this holiday season. Jonah and his dad also brought in more than 50 pounds of food. The Food Bank's Kathryn Strickland thanks Jonah and his dad for their holiday donation.



Recent Award



HOTCoffee, a startup networking community at The University of Alabama at Huntsville, recognized innovation leaders, including the Farm Food Collaborative, at a recent award ceremony. It's great to have the work of the Collaborative's Lee McBride and Anita Daniel recognized. Thanks HOTCoffee!

Corporate & Foundation Donors

The Boeing Company
 ConAgra Foods Child Hunger Ends Here
 SAIC Employee Giving Campaign
 Wells Fargo Foundation
 Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund
 Strain Foundation
 The Chicken Salad Chick Foundation, Inc.
 Remington Charitable Fund
 The Woodforest Charitable Foundation
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
 Calpine Oper Services Co., Inc.
 Employees Charity Organization (ECHO) of Northrup Grumman
 Parker Hannifin Foundation
 The Community Foundation of Huntsville/Madison County
 Bamity Fund
 Corporate Office Properties LP
 Healthcare Business Solutions
 Earth Fare
 Panera Cares Community Bread Box Program
 Fraternal Order of Eagles Bingo Fund
 GenCorp Foundation
 Hastings Heating and Cooling
 The Kuehlthau Family Foundation
 Trustmark National Bank Trust Department
 Walmart Foundation, State Giving Program
 PPG Industries Foundation
 Family Dollar Stores - Feeding Families Fueling Hope
 TriVector Services Inc.
 The Pampered Chef Round Up From The Heart Campaign
 TGI Friday's USA of Carlson Companies, Inc.
 North Alabama Society for H.R. Management
 General Mills Foundation - Outnumber Hunger
 CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation
 Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology
 Dynetics, Inc
 The Lowry Family Foundation
 Shady Grove Baptist Church



Special thanks to the over 100 schools, organizations, businesses and neighbors who held food drives and donated food during the holiday season.

Special Recognition Donations

In Honor of

Dr. Rashida Abbas and Mr. Anthony Ewing
Dr. and Mrs. Jeffery Allison
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Burns
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Butler
Dr. and Mrs. Gordon Cash
Dr. Shi-Chi Cheng and Dr. Vicki Kang
Dr. and Mrs. David Drenning
Dr. and Mrs. Walter Herbert Haught
Dr. Mihir Kanitkar and Dr. Kirti Kandalkar
Dr. and Mrs. Muhammad Khan
Dr. Joshua Krasnow and Dr. Beverly Stickles
Dr. and Mrs. Philip Laney
Dr. Navedeep Mann and Mr. Gagan Dhaliwal
Dr. and Mrs. James Murphy
Dr. and Mrs. William Robbins
Dr. and Mrs. Paul Tabereaux
Dr. and Mrs. Alejandro Vasquez
Dr. and Mrs. Enrique Velasquez
By George and Sonya Soliman
Alabama
By Gerard and Cathy Skievaski
Mary Ann and Bob Allan
By Janice Glor
Dr. Scott Allison
By Tamar and Gocha Saliashvili
Derrick Boegner, COPT
Mike Brown, Fite Building Co, Inc.
Marty Blackwood, Fite Building Co, Inc.
Richard Anderson, Robins and Morton Group
Marshanne Castro, COPT Property Management Services, LLC
Brandon J. Davis, TCI
Dave Ely, KPS Group
Jack Fite, Fite Building Co, Inc.
J. Robert Fite, Fite Building Co, Inc.
Greg Hall, COPT
Kristine Harding, KPS Group
Harold Hays, Hays Cheatwood Consulting, Inc.
Harry James, Fite Building Co, Inc.
Melanie Knight, COPT Property Management Services, LLC
George Marcin, COPT Construction and Development Services, LLC
Robert McCormick, Jesse Stutts, Inc.
Bob Ratliff, Dyson Construction Co., Inc.
Heather Aldridge Smith
Jay Stutts, Jesse Stutts, Inc.
Jim Stutts, Stutts Corporation, Inc.
Mark Voelkel, Independence Tube Corporation
Jimmy C. Wall, Jesse Stutts, Inc.
Greg White, COPT Property Management Services, LLC
By Construction Project Consulting, LLC
Richard and Nannette Austin
By Ashley Austin
The Heart Center Physicians
By Ross and Michele Hunter

Scotty and Charlene Baugh
By Brad Baker
Lynne Berry
Lynn and John Burbach
Sandra Drake
Jeanne and Gary Huckaby
Stephanie and John Huckaby
Mary A. Jolley
Tricia and Will Kirk
Nita and Jim Lewis
Rosie Little
Jennifer and Sage Lyons
Lyla and Blake McMullen
Thalia and Francois Naussac
Joanne and Scott Osborne
Sue and George Royer
Katherine and John Shelburne
Mrs. Jane Stewart
Abbie Stokes
Perky and Jerry Taylor
Elizabeth and Troy Vannatta
By Julian and Betty Butler
Tom and Linda Bryan
By William and Marlene Bryan
Dr. Henry Chen and Mrs. Anna Liu
Dr. Jay and Linda Dinerman
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Gessler
Dr. and Mrs. Sean Groark
Dr. and Mrs. John Hartley
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Ridner
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Wright
By George and Sonya Soliman
By Tamar and Gocha Saliashvili
Chili Appreciation Society International (CASI)
By Peter and Angela Combs
By William Heslop
Christmas
By Chris Marshall
Crabtree Rowe & Berger Team
By William and Donna Berger
Denice, Pat, Linda, Karen, Lynda, Cathy, Debbie, Sherry, Sandy and Lynn
By Deborah B. Collins
The Tim Denman Family
The Larry Denman Family
By John and Marion Mittell
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ellzey
By Ira and Bernice Sutton
Marilyn and Don Evans
Betty and Bill Giardini
Carla and Gus Gustafson
John Lewis
Mary Lee and Lee Prout
Jane and Burt Williams
By Freya and Loch Neely
FBNA and Gloria, Stephen and Kathy
By Liz Baker
Feed the Children
By Karl W. Chapman
Pam Harnden, MS, CCC
By Larry Walker
Nancy Hedden
By Janice Osmer
Amanda Holloway
Brother Dan Hughes & Family
Dawn McAfee
Barbara Rex
By Stephana Northern

Hufford Family
By Nicole Pacino
Hungry in North Alabama
By Calvin James
Dr. and Mrs. Ross Hunter
By George and Sonya Soliman
Huntsville Service Team, Johnson Controls, Inc.
By Kenneth Flippo
Tim Kauffman
Joey Shelton, Ph.D.
Marc Verhage
By TriVector Services, Inc. Employees
Eugene Keenum
By David Linderman
Kathy Kent
By Michael Dickerson
Kent Luttrell
By Kenneth and Gloria Luttrell
Thomas Miskelley
By Ronda Miskelley
Molly
By Hugh K. Wolfe, Jr.
My Mother
By Anonymous
Rivers Myres
By Al Cheatham
NCMS, Mid-South Chapter
By Paul Malone
Paula Neal
By Anna Young
Penny Osmer
By Janice Osmer
Our Lord Jesus Christ
By Mona Murdza
Qualis Corporation and Colleagues there
By Charlotte Shea
Chuck and Shelley Roberts
By Ralph and Mary Green
Edward L. Saenger
By Catherine C. Saenger
William Reece Shirley
By David Shirley
Michael Studer
By Martyn A. Martin
Taylor
By Eugenie Riddle
Those In Need
By Anonymous
Lucy Thrasher
By Ralph and Mary Green
Nigel Tufnel
By Edna Carter
Bob and Barbara Ward
By Mike and Cathy Ward
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Westmoreland
By John and Marion Mittell
Jim and Martha Wood
By Ralph and Mary Green
Bill and Nancy Yang
By Wendy Yang
Wendy Yang
By John E. Yang
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yessick
By Watson and Barbara Winstead

In Memory of

Sj. Baradeswari Prasad Bhattacharya
Sm. Kalyani Devi
By Ram P. Bhattacharya
Darla Renee Bailes
By Linda Berry
Clarence Michael Bailey
By William Bailey
T.C. Bill
By Jan Alexander
By Staff at Madison County Department of Human Resources
By Donald N. Rizzardi
By Diane G. Wynn
Clyde
By Richard and Lorna Mitchell
Janet Sinyard Coons
By Doug Cassaro
Sam and Ada Crutcher
By Lois Thomas
Timothy DeFalco
By Barbara DeFalco
Joan Dickerson
By Michael Dickerson
Barbara Gurley
By Darrell and Sandy Coons
Roberta E. Jenkins
By Robert and Teresa Martin
Betty May Kaiser
By Darrel Kaiser
Alton J. Lively, Jr.
By Jane Brooks
L. C. Malone
By Betty S. Malone
James R. Marsh, Jr.
By Anonymous
My Mother
By Anonymous
Timothy Hugh Ryals
By Jeannie Robison
Robert J. Schwinghamer
By Bob and Helen Middleton
Fred B. Simpson
By Jerry Barclay; Joseph L. Battle; Charles and Carol Bryant; Martha P. Carter; C. Edward Carter, Jr.; Joseph M. Cloud, PC; Betty J. Cooley; Steve and Terri Donley; Fellowship Sunday School Class at Latham UMC; Jerry and Lee Ann Huang; Tina Kent; Men's Bible Study at First Presbyterian Church; Douglas C. Martinson; James and Bonnie McCrary; Monte McGee; Donald and Mary Ellen O'Halloran; Rise Real Estate Inc. - Jimmie B. Adams; Donald N. Rizzardi; Peggy Simpson; Steven and Lana Smith; Linda Spalla; Frances and Gene Walker; Katrina Weir
Bo Smith
By Edna Block
Ruth Smith
By Sam and Sandra Linthicum
Reba Stevenson
By Helen Bracken
Derrel Scott Stratton
By Courtney Stratton
Mary Jo Taylor
By Libby Loder
Christophena Thomas
By Lois Thomas
Stirling Washington
By Arthur Plutzer
Betty Willis
By Lesley Land
Fred Wills
By Virginia T. Reily