



SUMMER 2016

CASE OF THE MONDAYS

Agency Spotlight: Wild Plum Center, Longmont

Monday mornings are tough for all us, but for children in low-income families, a case of the Mondays takes on new meaning. “We see children that come in—especially on Monday mornings—really, really hungry,” shared Martie Stangoni, RN, MS. Martie is the Health and Nutrition Director at Wild Plum Center, a program that provides early childhood education and developmental services to Longmont’s low-income families.

Wild Plum Center (WPC) is the designated Head Start and Early Head Start provider for the Longmont community, serving children ages five and under. WPC’s programming extends beyond the classroom and into families’ lives at home: They provide health, nutrition, and social services to children, as well as case management and education activities for parents.

Community Food Share has provided food for children at WPC for 29 years. **“I think it’s really important for everybody to remember that we do have hungry kids in Boulder County, and Community Food Share is integral in helping us to feed these children and to make sure that they get fed healthy food,”** Martie commented. The children receive protein, fruit, whole grains, and milk in their meals and snacks, and all food is prepared onsite thanks to their fully-equipped kitchens and trained cooks. Community Food Share donates 4,000 pounds of food a month to WPC, including 110 gallons of organic milk every week.

Studies have shown increasing evidence that “early childhood development drives success in school and life.”¹ Community Food Share is proud to play a part in WPC’s mission; the food that we donate allows WPC staff to allocate more time and resources towards providing promising futures for children. The partnership models Community Food Share’s collaboration with non-profits throughout Boulder and Broomfield Counties and the collective impact these partnerships create. **Together, we’re providing basic needs and creating self-sufficiency among our neighbors.**

¹ Heckman, James. “Invest in early childhood development: Reduce deficits, strengthen the economy.” *The Heckman Equation*.



MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



See children at Wild Plum Center enjoying lunch from Community Food Share in our video available on the homepage:

www.communityfoodshare.org

www.communityfoodshare.org

Hello!

A Note From the Executive Director



Chef Ann Cooper presenting Michelle Orge with an award to recognize Community Food Share's contributions to the "BVSD No Student Hungry: Weekend Nutrition Bag Program."

Do you remember that "back to school" feeling? It was a combination of nostalgia for the summer that sped by, and the nervous excitement for a year of new adventures. Friends are taller, you have a new locker, a new teacher, and you're about to learn fractions. These should be kids' biggest worries this time of year.

With your help, this list doesn't have to include worries about getting enough to eat. Recently, Chef Ann Cooper, the "Renegade Lunch Lady" (also known as the director of nutrition services for the Boulder Valley School District) wrote a post for U.S. News & World Report's "Eat+Run" blog:

"The impact [of hunger] goes well beyond a child's stomach. Childhood hunger affects a student's health, academic performance, and behavior. Hungry children cannot learn as much, as fast, or as well because they are not well-prepared and cannot concentrate. Taken together, the effects of childhood hunger increase the achievement and life expectancy gaps separating some low-income children from their peers, making this the social issue of our time."

We have partnered with the Boulder Valley School District to provide food for their innovative "BVSD No Student Hungry: Weekend Nutrition Bag Program." Schools play an integral role in providing meals during

the school day, and the bag program gives them healthy food for the weekend.

"Our backpack program is a success, and we want to see it replicated in communities all across America. There are hungry children in every state, county, and city in our country, and we believe that with public/private partnerships at a local level, we can help these food insecure children live long, healthy, and active lives. It should be a birthright in our country that every child has healthy food every day, and that no child is ever hungry."

Most of the items in the bag are fresh fruits and vegetables—often from local farmers—and the other items meet the district's rigorous food and snack guidelines. Bags are delivered to approximately 250 children and their families each week, and include recipes and tips to support families cooking and eating together. We are proud to include this partnership in our year-round approach to fighting childhood hunger, and I invite you to read on for other ways we're serving kids in our community.

Sincerely,



Michelle Orge
Executive Director

"The effects of childhood hunger increase the achievement and life expectancy gaps separating some low-income children from their peers, making this the social issue of our time."

FILLING THE GAPS THROUGH EVERY SEASON

Our Year-Round Approach to Fight Childhood Hunger

AT SCHOOL

During the school year, nearly 16,000 kids depend on free or reduced breakfast and lunch in Boulder and Broomfield Counties—that’s 27% of students. School meals help them get the nutrition they need to grow and learn, and for parents who struggle to make ends meet, the money saved can be used towards other basic needs like paying rent, utilities, and medical bills.

AT HOME

School meals are vital, but kids need additional meal support on weekends, holidays, and school breaks. The pantry and meal programs operated by our network of Partner Agencies help fill the gaps for kids and their families—including those with kids too young for school—and Community Food Share’s onsite pantry, Feeding Families, that offers weekly access to produce, grains, dairy, and protein. Feeding Families now includes the “Healthy Breakfast Initiative” which provides whole grain cereal to pair with milk and other high-protein foods to promote a healthy start to the day. We have also partnered with Boulder Valley School District on their “BVSD No Student Hungry: Weekend Nutrition Bag Program” that sends home healthy, kid-friendly food for students over the weekend.

OVER THE SUMMER

Like weekends and school breaks, summer can pose additional challenges to food security. Families can still visit our Partner Agencies and Feeding Families, but without school meals and the weekend bag program, the food gap increases. Combined with increased summer child care costs for working parents, the need for food can be even greater.

To fill the gap, we worked with several of our community partners to reach families this summer. In Lafayette, we partnered with Sister Carmen Community Center, Coal Creek Rotary Club, and Coal Creek Meals on Wheels to set up a mobile pantry at Peak to Peak Charter School. Kids receive free onsite meals, and parents can pick up milk, fresh produce and other staples from the mobile pantry to bring home. We set up similar programs in Broomfield with Broomfield FISH, and in Longmont with a group of local partners. In addition to food, these partnerships connect families to resources that provide support with housing, healthcare, and other basic needs.



A preschooler at Sanchez Elementary School in Lafayette grabs a bag filled with fresh produce and organic snacks from Community Food Share. Every Friday, 250 preschoolers and their families receive food through the “BVSD No Student Hungry: Weekend Nutrition Bag Program.”

Hunger didn’t take a summer vacation, nor does it go away during the school year. It is a year-round concern for our community.

Through our partnerships and your support, we are finding ways to fill the gaps through every season.

Jay Halsey, Agency & Programs Manager, helps a family take home free groceries from Community Food Share’s mobile pantry.



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

There are many opportunities to help over the fall season.

Ambassador Program - NEW

Become a Volunteer Outreach Ambassador and attend community events on behalf of Community Food Share. You'll have the opportunity to tell others about our work, and recruit new volunteers and supporters. We'll provide all the training and materials you need.

Volunteer Your Time and Talent

Do you have a professional skill or hobby? In addition to our regular volunteer opportunities, we have a need for donated services. Our immediate needs include: graphic designers, photographers, videographers, handy men and women, painters, and licensed electricians. Other needs come up throughout the year, so let us know if you're interested (and include the skills you'd like to offer), and we'll contact you as opportunities arise.

Volunteer Groups

We have an urgent need for volunteer groups to work in our new Repack Room, packaging foods like produce and grains into family-size bags. We welcome groups of 2-30 people. Shifts usually last three hours, and we have evening opportunities on Tuesdays.



In May, six volunteers gleaned 450 pounds of organic spinach at Isabelle Farm in Lafayette.

Volunteer Spotlight



Mary Oetting

How are the Dewey Decimal System and food banking related? Ask Mary. After working on a six-year book-cataloging project at Monarch High School's library, she wanted to continue her commitment to volunteering locally. She chose Community Food Share, because "food is a basic need, and being able to fill that need is a good thing." Mary's number skills come in handy, because her favorite job is to organize food items by expiration date. She enjoys this task, because she sees how it saves time for our clients and Partner Agencies. Thank you, Mary, for your commitment to providing an easy, efficient experience for the people we serve.



“Let’s Bag Hunger” Food & Fund Drive

November 13-23, 2016: We need an army of volunteers to help make our 32nd annual drive a success. Opportunities include picking up and sorting food donations and greeting at participating stores. Sign up for shifts online at www.communityfoodshare.org/get-involved.

Help Glean the Harvest

Local farms call Community Food Share when they have an abundant harvest or it’s time to plant a new crop. Our ability to collect and distribute this incredibly fresh produce is dependent on volunteer availability. **If you are interested in helping glean food on our behalf, contact Pete Terpenning with Earth’s Table at pterpenning@gmail.com or (303) 859-1733.**

Translators

Did you know that more than 70% of the people served at Community Food Share speak Spanish as a first language? If you’re bilingual, we’d love to know. We have an ongoing need for translators to assist in sharing information with our clients as well as learning more about their needs.

Interested in an opportunity listed here?

Update your Volgistics profile or contact [Nina Stubblebine](mailto:nstubblebine@communityfoodshare.org), Volunteer Manager, at nstubblebine@communityfoodshare.org or (303) 652-3663 ext. 202.

Plant it Forward

Home gardeners, donate your freshly picked fruits, vegetables, and herbs to Community Food Share. Donations are accepted Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM at our warehouse (650 S. Taylor Avenue, Louisville). Remember: no donation is too small!

No place to plant? Join a community garden:

- Growing Gardens: www.growinggardens.org (303) 443-9952
- Colorado State University Extension Office: www.extension.colostate.edu (303) 678-6238
- Second Start Community Garden: www.longmontcolorado.gov (303) 774-4384



Vail Resorts

From left to right: Che Yeng Ly, Karolyn Hedquist, Carl Glende, Sarah Lange, and Sheng Xiong.

Vail Resorts’ Epic Promise Program sponsors more than 20,000 volunteer hours countrywide. We are thrilled that the local Accounting and Finance department chooses to volunteer in its own backyard. Every month, a team of four or more shows up ready to do what’s needed. Armed with an apron, Carl comes “prepared for the dirty work.” He enjoys the less popular jobs like washing out the compost bins. During our food safety audit preparation in March, we spotted the vice president of finance painting the warehouse’s base boards. Thank you for continually rolling up your sleeves and getting the job done, Vail Resorts!



“Food is a basic need, and being able to fill that need is a good thing”

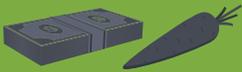
-Mary Oetting



35 Companies



12,000+ Employees



\$465,000 raised +
63,000 lbs of food



Nearly 1.4
million meals

COMPETE TO BEAT HUNGER CORPORATE CHALLENGE 2016

What do chili cook-offs, playtime with puppies, and dunk tanks have in common? These activities, and many more, were in full swing from May 9–25, as corporations and their employees joined the fight against hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties.

As part of our 21st annual **Compete to Beat Hunger Corporate Challenge**, leadership teams and employees planned and participated in a variety of activities on behalf of Community Food Share, including: “All Gain, No Pain” .5K races, chili cook-offs, corn hole and kickball tournaments, raffles, “Dunk the Punk” dunk tanks, puppy and kitten playtime, executive office swaps, and canned food collecting and sculpture building competitions.

Thirty-five companies and a total of more than 12,000 employees beat our \$400,000 goal and raised **\$465,000** and collected **63,000 pounds of food!** This will provide nearly **1.4 million meals** to our hungry neighbors. Employees and leaders came together in many ways to support the campaign—from joining and leading teams, to organizing events and collecting money, to loading food onto trucks and then unloading and sorting it at Community Food Share. Many corporations matched a percentage of their employees’ donations, which provided a great incentive for participation at all levels.

The Top 5 Winners in Each Category:

Total Points

1. WhiteWave Foods
2. Ball Corporation
3. CableLabs
4. Brocade Communications
5. Emerson (Micro Motion)

Points Per Employee

1. WhiteWave Foods
2. CableLabs
3. ASD Inc., a PANalytical Company
4. First Summit Realty
5. ServPro of Greater Boulder

A sincere thank you to the competing companies for the time, effort, energy, humor, and commitment that was contributed on behalf of Community Food Share and Corporate Challenge!

- ASD Inc., a PANalytical Company
- Ball Corporation & Ball Aerospace
- Berkshire Hathaway Home Services
- Brocade Communications
- BSW Wealth Partners
- CableLabs
- Cardinal Peak
- CRB
- Emerson (Micro Motion)
- Encision
- Envysion
- First Summit Realty
- Hain Celestial Group
- ICAT
- InDevR & 2B Technologies
- KBI Biopharma
- Key Equipment Finance
- Markit Group Ltd
- McKesson
- Medtronic
- Mocon Baseline Series
- MWH Constructors
- Namaste Solar Electric
- Plexus
- Rapt Media
- Renewable Choice Energy
- Rosemount DP Flow
- Safe Systems
- ServPro of Greater Boulder
- Sierra Nevada Corporation
- Spectra Logic
- Sterling-Rice Group
- TapInfluence
- Union Pacific Railroad
- WhiteWave Foods

Our Corporate Partnership Program offers ways to get involved in the fight against hunger.

The benefits of these opportunities include corporate recognition and employee engagement.

Volunteer: This is a great way to build teamwork! Consider incorporating volunteer shifts as part of new-hire orientation.

Engage: Energize employees by coordinating a food and fund drive. They'll be proud to work for a company supporting vital community work. Consider a corporate match, too!

Learn: Schedule an education session. We'll provide a speaker and discuss our work and ways to be involved.

Donate: Underwrite a Community Food Share program, help cover procurement costs, or make a gift to support our mission.

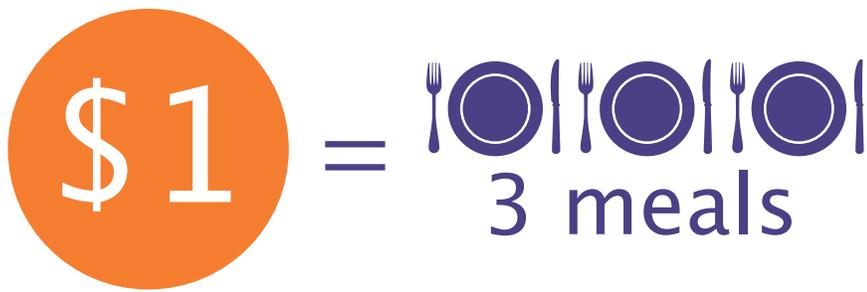
Compete to Beat Hunger Corporate Challenge: Plan now for the 2017 campaign—this is a friendly competition among local companies to raise dollars and collect food.

Contact **Susan Finesilver**, Director of Strategic Partnerships, at sfinesilver@communityfoodshare.org or (303) 652-3663 ext. 209.



Moments from Corporate Challenge 2016





Our Mission

To be a leader in our community's effort to end hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties

Upcoming Events

Hunger Action Month

September—The Feeding America nationwide network of food banks unites to urge individuals to take action in their communities. The goal is to create a movement throughout September that has a real and lasting impact on our mission to help end hunger in America.

Get involved—Wear orange on Hunger Action Day, Thursday, September 8th. Visit www.communityfoodshare.org for other ways to participate locally.

27th Annual “Tee Up! Against Hunger” Golf Tournament

Friday, September 2—Join us for a scramble format tournament at Coal Creek Golf Course in Louisville.

Get Involved—Sponsor opportunities are still available. Contact Susan Finesilver, Director of Strategic Partnerships, at sfinesilver@communityfoodshare.org or (303) 652-3663 ext. 209.

Boulder County CROP Walk

Sunday, October 16th—Community Food Share receives 24% of the funds collected at this Church World Service event in Longmont.

Get Involved—Participate in the walk or volunteer (serve as a crossing guard or assist with set-up and tear down). For details on the walk, visit www.bouldercropwalk.org. To volunteer, contact Nina Stubblebine, Volunteer Manager, at nstubblebine@communityfoodshare.org or (303) 652-3663 ext. 202.

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MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
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**FEEDING
COLORADO**

Charity Navigator's Highest Rating

Community Food Share is proud to be recognized as a four-star charity by Charity Navigator, America's premier independent charity evaluator. We have received this honor for 12 consecutive years, which places us in the top 1% of charities nationwide. The rating reflects Community Food Share's sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.



Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:00

Feeding Families (onsite pantry): Wednesday, 10-3:45 | Thursday & Friday, 8:30-1:45

Small Food Donations Accepted in Main Office: Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30

Dock Receiving Hours (large food donations): Monday-Friday, 8:00-3:30 (Questions? Call our food procurement manager at (303) 652-3663 ext. 211)