



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



There Are Superheroes Among Us

A lot can be said without words — that’s what Karen believes. Every Wednesday, she looks forward to seeing Ruth’s three young sons peeking over the counter, waving to announce their arrival. She looks forward to seeing Josh, the 13-year-old who, unprompted, tidies up the toddler play area while waiting for his mom to finish shopping. And she looks forward to seeing Rosa, an elderly woman who occasionally brings her a bag of homemade tamales.

Ruth, Josh, and Rosa are regulars in our onsite pantry; Karen, a volunteer who runs check-in, welcomes them every week. Her interactions with participants may be brief, but she brings intention and compassion to each one: “I love these people, they are MY people. I feel like I can create a teeny tiny space in their day when someone looks them in the eye and cares about them as a person — when someone respects them and really sees them.”

Karen has run check-in for our pantry participants every week for two years. There are plenty of families who she sees less frequently, but there are also those she sees every week. “These kids — we get to see them grow up.” She’s watched Josh mature from the boyish age of eleven to thirteen, an age where he understands what it means for his family to visit the food pantry every week. Karen spends time talking with Josh, asking him about school and other activities that she has learned are important

to him. Because in her words, “These are lovely, lovely people. And you just take a minute to get to know them. They’re not about being poor or hungry; they’re so much more than that.”

Karen embodies the supportive environment and respectful experience Community Food Share provides. In our eyes, she’s a superhero. A superhero among thousands of others: the volunteers and donors who not only make our work possible, they make our work enjoyable. And though it’s true that much can be said without words, we’d shout this through the community if we could: we are honored to serve our neighbors alongside you, our volunteers. We can’t thank you enough.



Our volunteer Karen welcomes participants of all ages to our pantry, including this youngster.

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello!

When you visit our distribution center in Louisville, you leave with something valuable. If you are hungry, you leave with food. If you are looking to give back, you leave with pride in what you accomplished as a volunteer or donor. And if you come for a tour, you leave with a new understanding of our work and how important you are to accomplishing our mission.

In general, you know that we gather food from donors. But when you see it firsthand, it has impact: eleven tons of food rescued every day that would otherwise go to waste; trucks arriving with local, regional, and national sources of fresh produce, dairy, and protein; giant bins of grains ready to repack; and yes, small boxes and cans from local grocery stores too.

You also know that we have volunteers, but seeing dozens of them in action, you get a glimpse of how much we depend on them. You see them preparing orders for Partner Agencies, packaging fruits and vegetables into family-sized bags, and you see longtime volunteers leading first-timers.

You may have spotted our food on the shelves of a Partner Agency, or witnessed the impact of it in the community, but we invite you to behold the movement of 24,000 meals a day — there's nothing like it! Come by yourself, bring the family, or schedule a group tour. We can do short tours or longer tours, and we can provide a general overview or, with some advance notice, we can tailor tours to your topic of interest: local hunger facts, our sustainability efforts, kid-friendly activities, and more.

We look forward to showing you how important you are to us!

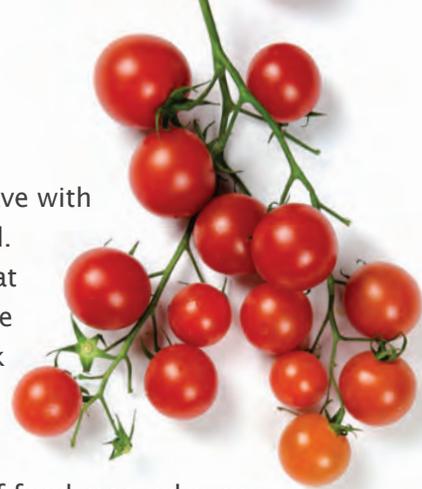


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle".

Michelle Orge
Executive Director

To schedule a tour, visit
www.communityfoodshare.org/tour
or call us at (303) 652-3663.



THIS MOTHER'S AND FATHER'S DAY, GIVE A GIFT THAT GIVES BACK

Give a gift in honor of Mom and Dad, and you'll help other parents build the best possible futures for their families. Choose from one of our Mother's and Father's Day themed eCards to notify your recipient of the gift. Give \$30 to feed a child for a month, or select any amount.

To send an eCard, visit www.communityfoodshare.org/parent or call (303) 652-3663.



HUNGER-FREE IN SHADES OF GREEN

Minimizing our environmental impact while fighting hunger in the community is a priority. From solar power to food rescue, here's how our sustainability initiatives stack up.

Our 949-module solar array offsets

61% of our total energy usage.

The annual savings in energy costs translates to over

161,000 MEALS.

The solar panels cover 21,666 sq. feet — nearly

FIVE

basketball courts put together!



In one year, the solar array reduces the same amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced by

66 CARS.

But our **COMMITMENT** *to* **FIGHTING HUNGER** *sustainably* doesn't stop there...

WE RESCUE

11 TONS of food **EVERY DAY** that would otherwise go to waste.

That's the weight of

115 **BABY ELEPHANTS!**

Volunteers glean

28,000 POUNDS

of excess produce from local farms during harvest season.



Hunger Doesn't Take a SUMMER VACATION

Many kids count down the days until school ends: they look forward to afternoons at the local pool, trips to Sweet Cow, hiking in the Flatirons, and family camping trips. But for other children, the story of summer is very different.

Nearly 15,000 kids in Boulder and Broomfield Counties rely on the breakfast and lunch they receive at school. When summer begins, these meals end. For working families already struggling with hunger, summer becomes the most difficult time of year, because on top of providing two additional weekday meals, parents are faced with increased childcare costs. For other families, it may be the tipping point that brings them into a food pantry for the first time.

Thanks to our donors and volunteers, Community Food Share helps families “fill the summertime gap” by offering mobile pantries in neighborhoods surrounding high-need schools. We also refer parents to Partner Agencies serving their community, and we connect them to free meals provided by the USDA’s Summer Food Service Program.

On average,
working parents
spend **20%**
of their income on
SUMMER CHILD CARE¹

leaving even less money for
food — especially healthy food.



Columbine Elementary School students listen eagerly as their teacher, Lisa Taylor, reads them a story.

“The families were just blown away. The kids were really excited about the fruit, the oatmeal, and the cereal. The parents were really excited about the organic milk, because that is so expensive. So many of our families were able to take advantage of it — it’s just amazing.”

– Lisa Taylor on the value of Community Food Share’s mobile pantry at Columbine Elementary School in Boulder. Lisa teaches kindergarten at Columbine, a high-need school in Boulder Valley School District.

If you or someone you know needs extra help this summer, visit www.kidsfoodfinder.org to find meals at a nearby Summer Food Service Program site, or visit our interactive Food Finder Map at www.communityfoodshare.org/food-finder.

¹Center for American Progress

Farmer Spotlight

Mike Munson, Munson Farms

Mike and his brother, Chris, grew up working on the farm that his mother and late father, Marcy and Bob, started in 1976. After high school, Mike took a hiatus from farm life: he graduated from college, played professional baseball in Japan, and launched his engineering career in Washington D.C. He returned to Colorado in 1995 and to Munson Farms a few years later. Today, he lives on the farm property with his wife and children, co-running it with his brother. And though farming is a full time job, he also continues to work as a full-time engineer.

Munson Farms has donated more than one million pounds of produce to Community Food Share since 1982!



Mike and Joan Munson enjoying dinner on their farm.

“It feels like we’re paying it forward in the way we can. It’s extremely satisfying to be able to do this.” They donate surplus produce from their farm stand and farmers market stalls. They also partner with us through gleaning: when there’s extra produce in the fields, Community Food Share’s volunteers harvest it, and we distribute the freshly picked produce through our programs and Partner Agencies.

Find Munson Farms’ produce at the Boulder and Union Station Farmers Markets, as well as their farm stand. Stop by, pick up some locally grown produce, and please thank them for supporting Community Food Share!

CORPORATE CORNER

Savvy consumers prefer to purchase products and services from socially responsible businesses. Community Food Share has a complete menu of opportunities for our corporate partners to help us fight hunger locally: donate food products, volunteer, and yes...donate funds!

Want to see the impact your company can make?

Contact Dina Coates Koebler at dcoateskoebler@communityfoodshare.org to start the conversation.

CURRENT VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Hunger Hurts the Whole Community Fund & Food Drive

Volunteers are crucial to the success of this annual event! We need grocery store greeters to encourage shoppers to donate funds and food. Evening and weekend shifts available.

When: Friday, April 26 through Sunday, April 28

Where: Local King Soopers stores

Shift Length: 2-3.5 hours

To sign up, visit www.communityfoodshare.org/hunger-hurts.

Garden Leaders

Garden Leaders support our Garden Share Program by assisting with gleaning opportunities, produce pick-ups, plant giveaways, and more. We're looking for dedicated volunteers who enjoy working with others and getting their hands dirty!

When: Weekdays, as needed (shifts vary throughout the season)

Where: Gardens and farms in Boulder and Broomfield Counties (typically outdoors)

Shift Length: 1-3 hours

To sign up, contact Malik Salsberry at (303) 652-3663 ext. 212 or gardenshare@communityfoodshare.org.

Volunteer Spotlight



Lauren Nygren

Lauren began volunteering with Community Food Share's Junior Guild in high school. They met monthly to work on projects and volunteer. Having recently moved back to the Boulder area, she was seeking volunteer opportunities. Attending our Farm to Fork dinner last summer rekindled Lauren's passion for our mission. Her story now comes full circle: she recently joined our current Guild, a group of volunteers dedicated to working on fundraising events. She shared, "I'm so impressed by the talented individuals on the Guild and look forward to seeing the impact we can make."

GROW A ROW



Nothing beats the great outdoors and the sight of a bountiful garden! This growing season, pledge to “grow a row” for Community Food Share, and donate your freshly grown veggies and herbs. With your help, our Garden Share program brings healthy, local produce to those in need.

All donations, large and small, are accepted Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM at our distribution center: 650 S. Taylor Avenue, Louisville.

To sign up for Grow a Row, visit www.communityfoodshare.org/garden-share.



The Stone Family

Jeff, Micheline, and Patrick Stone have been fighting hunger with Community Food Share for five years. “No one should be hungry in a country that is so plentiful,” says Micheline. You’ll find this amazing trio doing a bit of everything, from sorting to sweeping and mopping. While they are willing to help in any way, assisting shoppers in the Feeding Families pantry is their favorite activity. “When you stock the shelves, and people thank you, it makes you feel good,” says Jeff. Thank you, Stone family, for all you do!

UPCOMING EVENTS



HUNGER HURTS THE WHOLE COMMUNITY FUND & FOOD DRIVE

Celebrate the 31st year of this hallmark event in Longmont and the St. Vrain Valley. Give a financial gift, donate non-perishable foods, or sign up to volunteer. Details at www.communityfoodshare.org/hunger-hurts.



CORPORATE CHALLENGE

A friendly competition among local companies to raise dollars and collect food for Community Food Share. For more information, visit www.communityfoodshare.org/cc.



BASH ON BOURBON STREET

Bash on Bourbon Street is an upscale evening event. Guests enjoy cocktail hour, tarot card readings, dinner, dancing, and a silent auction. For ticket and sponsorship information, visit www.communityfoodshare.org/bash.



30TH ANNUAL TEE UP! AGAINST HUNGER GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us for a scramble format tournament at Coal Creek Golf Course in Louisville. Register to play or become a sponsor at www.communityfoodshare.org/golf.

Our Mission

To eliminate hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties through engagement, collaboration, and leadership.



650 S. Taylor Avenue
Louisville, CO 80027
(303) 652-3663
www.communityfoodshare.org

 /communityfoodshare
 @commfoodshare
 /CommunityFoodShareOrganization



Charity Navigator's Highest Rating

Community Food Share is proud to have received the highest rating — four stars — by Charity Navigator, America's premier independent evaluator. We have received this honor for 14 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, 10:00-3:45 | 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, 8:00-3:00