

PhilabundanceNews

Driving Hunger From Our Communities

❄️❄️ Winter 2011

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

As I move forward and settle into 2011, I think about the accomplishments and achievements, trials and tribulations of the past year.

In a year marked with a twenty percent increase in need across the region, the erosion of expendable income of our middle class, and occasional dry spells that left us with virtually no produce to distribute, we also have seen our community reaching out in record numbers to help their neighbors in need.

I want to take a moment to thank each of you for your unrelenting support during the last year. And it is with great pride that we welcomed over 11,000 new supporters to our cause in 2010. Your compassion and generosity confirms what I've always known – that putting an end to hunger remains a priority for all of us in the Delaware Valley.

However, those in need will not see a thriving economy in the near future. Gasoline and heating oil prices continue to rise, further squeezing the poor and the middle class, and the electricity rate caps coming off means that our neighbors across the region will see an increase in their monthly bills.

The problems of the past year are not the only ones bearing down on our region. The issue of food access, which is addressed in this newsletter, has been a longstanding burden on the 1st Congressional District, and many other parts of our service area as well.

Despite knowing the challenges that lie ahead, Philabundance looks forward to the coming year optimistically. We are a dynamic organization focused on funding new innovative solutions while improving our existing programs. Backed by a broad community who share our vision, we are tackling the issues of hunger head on.

Whether you're a long-time partner, or recent donor, we thank you for your support. Working together, we can make sure that no man, woman or child in the Delaware Valley goes to bed hungry.

Sincerely,



Bill Clark
President & Executive Director



Upcoming Event!

Walk Against Hunger
Saturday, April 9, 2011

8:00 a.m.

Eakins Oval, Philadelphia

Our Mission!

Philabundance reduces hunger and food insecurity in the Delaware Valley by providing food access to people in need, in partnership with organizations and individuals.

Do you know someone in need of food assistance?

 **Food Help Line**
800.319.Food (3663)

a Philabundance program

Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Main Office

3616 South Galloway Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148
(215) 339-0900
(215) 339-0924 Fax
www.philabundance.org

Bringing Food Access to Chester

It's easy to take for granted that at any time you can hop into your car and head to the grocery store to pick up a few things for dinner. However, for so many people in Chester City, Pennsylvania, this is not the case. In Chester, which is located in the First Congressional District, the second hungriest District in the nation, most residents do not have that luxury.

Instead, the only option to get the necessary food to feed their families is a corner mini-mart full of highly processed snacks, a few canned goods and an overwhelming absence of fresh, healthy foods. Chester's last full-sized grocery store closed a startling 10 years ago, and today over 50% of the residents say that they'd have to travel too far to get the nutritious foods they need.

Chester is part of our community, and we are here to heed the call for help: we need to fill a void where there are no grocery stores in sight. Solutions to this large-scale issue need to be broad-reaching and progressive. Many residents have small food budgets, and many use SNAP benefits, as well as other government subsidies.

Experts claim that a traditional supermarket would be unable to survive. A traditional food pantry also leaves some issues unresolved due to its dependence on varying levels of food and funds. We believe that the key to this issue is a model that falls somewhere between the two. Our hybrid market/pantry will be designed to offer both donated and purchased food, which will ensure a long-term promise of choice for the people of Chester. The project is an ideal marriage of choice, dignity and sustainability.

A project of this scope will be the first of its kind in the country. And bringing it to fruition will require action on everyone's part. From our partners to stakeholders and elected officials, every voice, every dollar, every ounce of support will bring us that much closer to finally bridging the long-existent gap between the people of Chester and the food they so desperately need.

To learn how to get more involved in providing aid to Chester, visit www.philabundance.org/chesterfoodaccess today.

WMMR's Preston and Steve Camp Out for Hunger is bigger than ever!



We are so pleased to announce that this year, WMMR's Preston and Steve Camp Out for Hunger had its most successful year. In their 12th year, Preston and Steve motivated their listeners and supporters to donate an astounding 263 TONS of food- that's 527,285 pounds, or 20 tractor trailers, in just 5 days. And we can't forget about the additional \$70,000 collected during the weeklong event! GADZOOKS!!

From corporations like J.P. Mascaro & Sons and Subaru, to supporters young and old, to celebrities from across the country, everyone who stopped by had a great time and helped bring food to those in our region who need it most.

We're already looking forward to next year's event - hope to see you there!

Now is the Perfect Time to Get Involved



Philabundance is so very appreciative of our many friends, donors and partners who provide an outpouring of support during the holidays. When we each have a moment to appreciate what we have with our family and friends, it is no surprise that so many of us also reflect on how we can give back to those less fortunate.

But please don't forget that the need exists all year. Which is why now is the perfect time to volunteer at our Hunger Relief Center, plan an event to raise funds, or hold a food drive.

To learn more about getting involved with Philabundance right now, visit www.philabundance.org/take-action or call 215-339-0900 x 223.

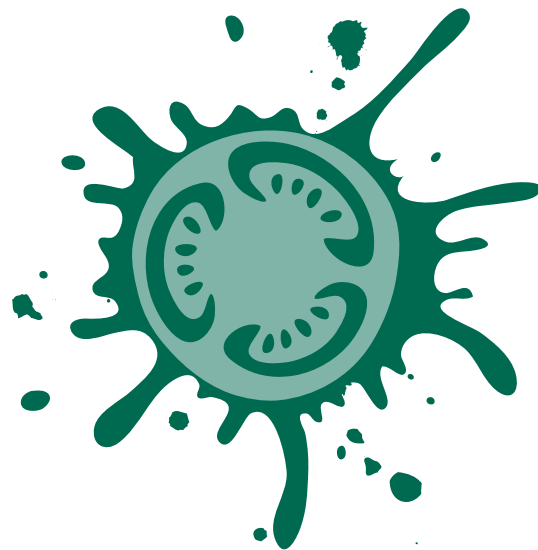
You can also "like" Philabundance on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Philabundance, or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Philabundance.

That's a Serious Food Fight!

You may remember from our summer newsletter that we just couldn't wait to kick off the inaugural year of Shire's The Great Food Fight! And our excitement was well warranted.

Our first annual competition among high schools in Southeastern PA far surpassed the original goal of 25 tons and helped raise over 66 tons of food for those in need across our region, enough to feed 3 sold out crowds at Citizen's Bank Park! Out of the 20 schools that participated, Germantown Friends School and Penncrest led the charge in total donations, and they became the first recipients of Shire Pharmaceutical's generous grand prizes of \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

Sound like something your school would like to get involved in next year? Then you're in luck! The next Great Food Fight will take place in Spring 2012. To learn more on how your school can sign up for next year's food fight, contact eberish@shire.com



A New Initiative Where Women Can Maximize Their Impact

It is with great excitement and anticipation that Philabundance announces our first giving society focused on connecting the efforts of dedicated women who support Philabundance to maximize their impact! The Ceres Society is a group of influential women who are leading the charge to fight hunger in our region. Named for Ceres, the Roman goddess of agriculture and nurturer of mankind, the Ceres Society provides community leaders a fulfilling means to help those in need while increasing the value of their generosity through a matching program. Additionally, Ceres Society members will have the opportunity to network around an issue they are passionate about and strategize how to influence change. For more information on the activities of the Ceres Society, please contact Tina Rothfuss, trothfuss@philabundance.org.

Main Office

3616 South Galloway Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148

Ways You Can Help Drive Hunger from the Delaware Valley



Financial Donation

- Make a gift by check, telephone or on the web
- Make a gift in honor of someone else and/or a special occasion, or in memory of someone
- Hold a Fund Drive or a Penny Drive
- Become a Monthly Donor
- Ask your employer to match your gift in full or in part
- Support your local Employee Giving Campaign, and designate your gift to Philabundance
- Hold an event to benefit Philabundance
- Ask your club, church or other organization to make a gift

Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
Please make your contribution payable to: Philabundance



Stock Donation

- Donate stocks or other securities



Planned Giving

- Include a bequest to Philabundance in your will



Volunteer

- Go to www.philabundance.org for more information about volunteer opportunities, and/or to fill out your volunteer application



Tell a Friend



See What's Fresh On Our Website

- Add a Charity Badge to your website to encourage visitors to donate directly to Philabundance
- Sign-up for FreshNews and get Philabundance updates quickly through our monthly e-newsletter



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- Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Philabundance

For all the latest news, please visit www.philabundance.org