



Spring 2019

Seniors are living healthier lives with your help

Plus:
Barbara thanks you!

You're changing lives through your gifts





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Dear Friend,

For 35 years, Philabundance has been rescuing perfectly good food that would otherwise go to waste and providing it to neighbors in need through hundreds of member agencies and programs. The 110 Philabundance team members are mission-driven like no other group you've seen, bringing food to 90,000 people every week!

While we are proud of the number of people we serve, we remain very aware of the constant need, especially experienced by our senior neighbors. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported in December that the level of senior poverty in Philadelphia is the worst among the ten largest cities in the United States at 26%, or one in four seniors — 16% of those Philabundance serves are seniors.

We have seen poverty and food insecurity numbers worsen over the last 10 years, even as employment levels improve. Unfortunately, many seniors have worked low-wage jobs for years without being able to save for retirement. The reduction of pension plans for retirees and the lack of sufficient public benefits also cause many seniors to suffer.

Moving forward, Philabundance has the important goal of partnering with more social service agencies that are providing services besides food assistance. This will allow us to have a more comprehensive approach in our fight to end hunger forever, thereby reducing the number of seniors, families and children in need.

We cannot achieve this ambitious goal without your support. For that we thank you, sincerely, for all you do to help your hungry neighbors.

Gratefully,

Glenn Bergman
Executive Director

Barbara is Singing Your Praises

Barbara outside the food pantry at Bucks County Housing Group



Barbara has more than her fair share of health concerns. She has mobility issues, vision problems and recently had surgery related to a cancer diagnosis. But one thing gives her so much encouragement despite it all: your support.

Barbara was all smiles at the food pantry at Bucks County Housing Group. She was anxious to share what a difference you're making for her and countless others who rely on the food they receive from the pantry.

as a cashier. Unfortunately, her health issues only compound her financial burdens.

But thanks to the kindness of people like you, Barbara has a little less to worry about these days. She's been coming to the food pantry for about a year and loves the healthy options available there.

like Barbara never have to worry about missing vital meals as they struggle with illness and other life challenges.

"I don't know what

I would do without it."

"I thank God for this place," she said of the food pantry, made possible by you. "I don't know what I'd do without it."

"[The pantry] is a blessing," she said. "Everyone here would say that."

Barbara shares what she has with her daughter and 4- and 10-year-old grandsons.

"I can't thank [you] enough," she says.

Barbara has lived on a very limited income since retiring from her job

Thank you for choosing to give to Philabundance so that women

1 in 4

seniors in Philadelphia struggle with hunger.

Your Gifts Mean Healthy Food for All Ages!

THANK YOU

Preston & Steve Camped Out & Canned Hunger

For the 21st year in a row, 93.3 WMMR's Preston & Steve camped out to fight hunger in the largest single-location food drive in the country. The week-long event, with the help of thousands of listeners, hundreds of businesses and YOU, yielded approximately 1.826 million pounds of food, plus almost \$200,000, providing over 913 tons of food for our hungry neighbors!

Toyota Hauled Away Hunger

Thanks to the Toyota Tri-State Dealers Association, and 25 local Toyota Dealers, we received more than 360,000 pounds of food to help those facing hunger. This generous donation will provide enough fresh produce for 18,000 hungry neighbors for one week — approximately the attendance of an NBA basketball game. Thanks, Toyota TDA, for once again putting the “drive” in food drive.

Helping Seniors

Moravia Health, a full service homecare agency, is partnering with Philabundance to help provide pantry staples to 4,500 seniors in our area each month through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. We are excited to partner with Moravia Health in 2019 and are grateful for their dedication to serving seniors in the Greater Philadelphia area!

Driving Hunger from Our Communities

In 2014, Philabundance launched a new strategic plan with the ultimate goal of *Ending Hunger Forever*. To accomplish this, we need to pursue both feeding people today and initiatives focused on ending hunger in the future, and for good. In 2019, we will begin to focus on long-term solutions to hunger. To get us started, HealthSpark provided a grant of \$50,000 to run a pilot program in Montgomery County — the first of many. Stay tuned for more information in the coming months about this exciting endeavor!

Grateful to Our Grantors:*

Philabundance serves more than 90,000 people each week, thanks to the generosity of these supporters:

The Energy Transfer/Sunoco Foundation
 The Gitlin Family Foundation
 The Philadelphia Phillies
 TD Charitable Foundation
 The United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey
 Lawrence J. and Anne Rubenstein Charitable Foundation
 The James and Agnes Kim Foundation
 The Elizabeth B. and Arthur E. Roswell Foundation
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 The Disney Foundation/Feeding America
 Stanley and Lucy Lopata Charitable Foundation
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PCK Grantors:

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 The Hassel Foundation

*List as of 12/10/2018





Chip with sons, Charles & Conner

“All I want is to hear my husband’s name on the radio.”

What started as a spur-of-the-moment call for Pam Davis to honor her late husband has turned into an ongoing relationship with Philabundance.

Pam’s husband of 26 years, Chip, passed away in May 2009. Just before Christmas that year she wondered how she could make the holiday a little easier for the couple’s two sons, Charles and Connor. Then she heard musician Jon Bon Jovi’s voice on the radio...

Steve’s Camp Out for Hunger. And Bon Jovi agreed to match the amount donated.

Pam knew her sons would love the show, so she called and donated in memory of Chip — it was an amount she couldn’t easily afford, but that seemed right to her. And she had one simple but important request: “All I want is to hear my husband’s name on the radio.”

After making the donation, Pam and her sons visited Philabundance to see how their support was being put to use, and quickly saw the impact of their contribution. With her initial donation, Pam helped feed 66,000 people.

“It’s so easy to help,” she says. “One person can make a difference.”

In 2010, Pam held the first fundraiser in Chip’s memory, with all proceeds going to Philabundance. With the help of family and friends, she’s held the fundraiser each year since and

contributed a cumulative total near \$51,000 since 2009.

“Other than air which is free, the next thing you need to survive is food,” Pam says of what drives her to continue to support the work of Philabundance.

Thank you to Pam for her tireless efforts to help her neighbors facing hunger. Pam’s dedication to Chip’s memory and the fight against hunger continues to make a significant difference throughout the Delaware Valley!

“One person can make a difference.”

Bon Jovi offered concert tickets, a meet-and-greet with his band and an autographed guitar for the person willing to donate the most to Philabundance through 93.3 WMMR’s Preston and



Get Involved – Host a Fundraiser

As an individual, business or community group, you can host an event that benefits Philabundance and helps drive hunger from our communities today and end hunger forever. Learn how by clicking Host a Fundraiser on the Get Involved tab at Philabundance.org.

You Make Dreams Come True!



Terrance always enjoyed cooking, but it wasn't until he started his culinary education with Philabundance Community Kitchen that he saw what nutritious, quality food could do for his community.

"My favorite thing [about Philabundance Community Kitchen] is knowing that my work is helping people in need," says 50-year-old Terrance.

Terrance graduated from the 14-week culinary vocational training program for low- to no-income adults in 2012 and was hired full-time with Philabundance Community Kitchen immediately following graduation. As a Lead Production Cook, he says he now has more self-esteem and courage for the future.

"[Philabundance Community Kitchen] helped me out of a lot of things and sent me in a new direction in my life," Terrance says, smiling.

And we are happy to announce that, thanks to the support of generous people like you, even more neighbors will have a chance at a new, improved life path. Philabundance reached our initial \$6.6 million capital campaign goal to make dreams of a Philabundance Community Kitchen expansion a reality!

With initial funds in place, a 58,000 square foot, state-of-the-art culinary training and production facility will be built in North Philadelphia. With the additional space, around 175 students will be able to receive training annually — up from only 90 at the program's current location.

*Terrance,
Philabundance Community
Kitchen graduate*

The new space will also allow the program to quadruple the number of healthy meals prepared for children, families and seniors in need. Already, Philabundance Community Kitchen serves more than 250,000 meals annually to the Delaware Valley's most vulnerable residents.

Growth among programs like Philabundance Community Kitchen are only possible thanks to donors who give faithfully, like you.

"Your warm heart and overall appreciation for other human beings helps this program one hundred percent," Terrance says.

*"... my work is
helping people in need."*

You Help Seniors Stay Healthier

Bill holds fresh produce he picked up from the free produce market under I-95 at Tasker Street.



Bill is recovering well after an open-heart surgery. But without the support of friends like you, this local retiree would have no other way to get the nutritious food he needs to heal and maintain his health.

Bill has diabetes and heart disease. His prescription costs alone are expensive, so affording healthy groceries is challenging. And though Bill has tried to find other financial assistance, like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the couple's income is just high enough not to qualify.

that the free market is close to their home.

Through your support, Bill can bring home fresh produce like peppers, tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables he and his wife would otherwise be unable to afford.

"Thank you," he says to donors like you who make it all possible.

Your generosity supports our shared mission to help feed seniors like Bill and his wife!

"I get my Social Security check, but it's *not enough to live on.*"

"Believe me I've tried," he says. "All I have is time to try."

That's why it means so much to Bill and his wife to receive groceries from the free produce market in South Philly. Bill had to sell the couple's only car, so they're especially thankful

Bill, 82, spent 20 years working as a chemist and several more years in management. But ever since he retired, it's been difficult for Bill and his wife to make do, especially with endless medical bills.

"I get my Social Security check, but it's not enough to live on," Bill says.

Let Your Generosity Grow!

Did you know that you can maximize the impact of your donations without the fees and administrative complexities of setting up a family foundation? Many of our supporters are using donor-advised funds, which provide you the flexibility to recommend how much and how often money is granted to Philabundance.

To learn more about donor-advised funds, please contact our development office at giving@philabundance.org or 215-339-0900.