ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK SUMMER 2023





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### Your Gifts Change Lives for the Better!

Dear Neighbor,

You may have read about my planned retirement later this year – with the pandemic, resulting economic fallout, and Hurricane Ian behind us, the time is right for the organization and for me. Please be reassured that All Faiths Food Bank has never been stronger and the new CEO will have dedicated, brilliant volunteer and professional leadership to help guide them.

As you read this, we are in the final stages of community fundraising for the *Campaign Against Summer Hunger*. With another school year ending and thousands of students losing access to free and reduced-price school meals, I am truly grateful for friends like you. With your partnership, we can ensure that children facing hunger in our community have access to fresh and healthy food. Sandra Frank, JD Chief Executive Officer

This year marks the tenth anniversary of our *Campaign* (with a \$900,000 matching gift this year!) The *Campaign* is probably my proudest organizational achievement as CEO; as long as there is a need, All Faiths Food Bank will be there!

You should feel proud and inspired knowing the difference your generosity has made for countless neighbors. Thank you.

With deepest gratitude,

Sandra Frank, JD Chief Executive Officer



# SHOULD BE THE BEST PART OF THE YEAR.

Sadly, **OVER 40,000** local kids will need food this summer.

YOU can change that.

\$ for \$ match April 1 - May 15

END SUMMER HUNGER AT ALLFAITHSFOODBANK.ORG



Thank you to our lead investors



GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION







"This program helps so many families who really need the help right now."

## Yesli and Dylan Find Food and Hope at Alta Vista

Your generosity provides nourishing, fresh food for children, families and seniors across our community. For neighbors like Yesli, mother of 7-yearold Dylan, your partnership is vital.

During the school year, Dylan attends Alta Vista Elementary School. And in summer, he goes to Alta Vista summer camp.

Yesli takes care of Dylan at home while Dylan's dad is at work. With just one income to rely on, it's sometimes difficult to keep enough healthy food on the table — especially when the family needs to make up for the meals Dylan eats at school.

Thankfully, Yesli learned about Alta Vista elementary school's food distribution program from the school's teachers. The help is invaluable to her family.

"A little bit of everything helps so much," she says.

Thanks to your incredible generosity, Yesli can find fresh, healthy staples like proteins and vegetables at the distribution, and little Dylan can even take home special treats like cookies on occasion, too.

Yesli is so grateful for donors like you. "This program helps so many families who really need the help right now," she says.

It's because of you that our neighbors at risk of hunger can continue to put healthy family meals on the table. Thank you!

# Bob and Merle Love Giving Back

Giving back has always been important to Bob and Merle they gave money when their time was limited, although they always hoped to volunteer.

Before retiring and moving to Florida, the couple led full, busy lives in the Midwest. Bob worked in the pharmaceutical industry, and Merle worked in tech.

When they came to Florida five years ago, they took the opportunity to give back in person. Merle's sister, a volunteer at All Faiths Food Bank, introduced the couple to our shared mission. Bob and Merle took to it right away.

"You can't give enough, whether time or money," Merle says. Now Bob and Merle volunteer twice a week, donating time wherever it is most needed. They both cite the Food Bank's community focus and friendly staff as the reasons they keep coming back.

It is your generosity that makes our mission possible. Thank you for donating to ensure that volunteers like Bob and Merle have food to distribute to our neighbors facing hunger.

And thank you, Bob and Merle and the many amazing volunteers who give time and energy to carry out our shared mission of ending hunger in our communities



## Samantha's Family is Grateful for Your Help!

N ine years ago, donors like you helped Samantha's mother access healthy food at a time of need. Now, you're helping Samantha do the same.

Samantha, a proud mother of three with a baby on the way, shares a household with her partner. But even with two incomes, the couple can't always make ends meet.

The current cost of living has brought much uncertainty to community members in Sarasota and DeSoto counties. It's your partnership that helps us continue to stand between our neighbors and hunger.

"I hope those who support the Food Bank will keep helping because this service is really crucial right now."

Because Samantha doesn't qualify for Food Stamps, she pays for groceries out of pocket. With three kids — soon to be four — that can be tough.

Thankfully, donors like you make it possible for Samantha to find fresh, nourishing food at Alta Vista Elementary School's food distribution.

"This food pantry really helps us out because we are living paycheck to



paycheck right now," Samantha says. "We would not be able to make ends meet without this help."

Samantha remains hopeful for the future, thanks in large part to knowing that no matter what, her family will have reliable access to nutritious meals because of you.

"I hope those who support the Food Bank will keep helping because this service is really crucial right now," she shares.

With friends like you behind her, Samantha can look forward to many healthy family meals. Thank you!



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#### Connect with us online:



#### **Create a Lasting Legacy**

Help end hunger by including All Faiths Food Bank in your estate plans and becoming part of the **Ending Hunger Society**. To learn more, please contact Rachel Bradley at 941-549-8140 or rbradley@allfaithsfoodbank.org