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## All Faiths Food Bank gets boost to feed those in need

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All Faiths Food Bank has a full size warehouse in Sarasota where largely donated food is stored.

SUN PHOTO BY DANIEL FINTON



SARASOTA — The nonprofit Ending Hunger All Faiths Food Bank serves a lot of food to locals in need around the region.

On Wednesday, at the All Faiths headquarters in Sarasota, the nonprofit received a donation from the Heron Creek Community Foundation, a North Port-based nonprofit, for \$17,510.

HCCF operates to financially support nonprofits that benefit North Port. In 2024 alone, HCCF raised \$103,000 for North Port organizations. HCCF has awarded more than \$725,000 to local charitable organizations in North Port and the area since its inception in 2010.

In North Port, the Awaken Church is a prominent food bank fueled by All Faiths. The North Port location, itself, serves around 1,000 people everyday.

The \$17,510 donation, Tom Ferris, an HCCF Board member said, will be matched by the Gulf Coast Community Foundation's \$1 for \$1 match program. That means All Faiths will be receiving more than \$35,000.

GCCF is another local nonprofit that, like HCCF, operates to help those who help. It has donated more than \$575 million to various local organizations.

HCCF board members Ferris, Nick Cipolla and Kevin Smith met with Victoria Hasselbring, the All Faiths manager of donor stewardship, to give All Faiths the donation.

All Faiths heavily relies on food and monetary donations, and also the help of volunteers.

Recently, All Faiths also received \$107,000 in grants to support a variety of All Faiths programs.



Funders donating to All Faiths recently include:

- Bank of America Client Foundation, Backpack program, \$40,000
- Regmark Foundation, food purchase, \$30,000
- Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Link2Feed, \$15,000
- First Horizon Foundation, mobile pantries, \$10,000
- Venice Yacht Club Charitable Foundation, Backpacks, \$5,000
- Venice Golf and Country Club Foundation, Backpacks, \$5,000
- Wawa Foundation, mobile pantries, \$2,000

All Faiths helped feed more than 80,000 people in the area throughout 2024. A total of 20.4 million meals were divvied out last year.

Hasselbring showed the contingent from Heron Creek around the large Sarasota facility.

On the tour, there were volunteers stuffing boxes, a large warehouse manned by staff operating machinery like forklifts, an abundance of packaged food in said warehouse and a massive walk-in freezer featuring perishables.

Outside of the building was also a fleet of the distinct All Faiths box trucks.

Hasselbring spoke to 80% of food being donated, and the thousands who that helps serve.

Cipolla said it is said there is such a need. But he is happy All Faiths is there to help.

To learn more about All Faiths visit [allfaithsfoodbank.org](https://allfaithsfoodbank.org)

To learn more about the GCCF visit [gulfcoastcf.org](https://gulfcoastcf.org)

To learn more about HCCF visit [heroncreekfoundation.org](https://heroncreekfoundation.org)

