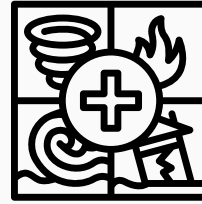


# NOURISHING NEWS

All Faiths Food Bank agency newsletter



## Preparing for hurricane season: A community responsibility



Dear agency partners,

With hurricane season upon us — and after the many storms our community has weathered in recent years — it is more important than ever to prepare. Disasters are inevitable, but preparation can save lives, reduce fear and help us recover more quickly.

### Make a plan

Have a clear disaster plan with defined roles and safety steps for everyone.

### Know your risks

Learn your flood zone, reduce risks at home or work and keep contact info current. Stay in touch with emergency partners throughout the storm.

### Be ready to adjust

Supplies may be limited and first responders get priority — recovery takes time.

### Take care of yourself

Rest, manage stress and support your team — you can't help others if you're not well.

Let's prepare together. What we do today can save lives tomorrow.

Sincerely,  
Agency Relations Team

## This issue:

### PAGE 01

Preparing for hurricane season:  
A community responsibility

### PAGE 02

New agency payment portal

### PAGE 03

Link2Feed updates

### PAGE 04

Meet our new  
retail store manager

### PAGE 05

Building safer practices  
together

### PAGE 06

Peach blackberry smoothie  
recipe

Meals on Wheels  
Sarasota built hurricane  
kits for our neighbors  
with food provided by us  
and with help from the  
American Red Cross.  
Great job!



# EXCITING NEWS!

## NEW AGENCY PAYMENT PORTAL

Dear agency partners,

We're excited to share a new way to pay: **Agency payments can now be made online directly through our agency portal!**

This feature was created to make submitting payments more convenient, secure and trackable. As of today, all credit card and ACH payments should be submitted through this portal. Please discontinue use of any other links or forms you may have used in the past.

We will continue to accept check payments; however, if you choose to pay by check, you must include the payment slip with your remittance to ensure timely and accurate processing.

### To get started:

Visit our agency portal and click the green tile labeled "Agency payment." You'll be directed to a secure form where you can enter your billing and agency information.

### Important notes:

- Only agency-issued credit cards or ACH transfers are accepted.
- The credit card or bank account must be in the name of the submitting agency.
- Personal credit cards cannot be processed.
- Payments should match the "Total due" statement balance and be paid in full.

If you have any questions or need help using the new system, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your continued partnership and for helping us improve how we serve you!

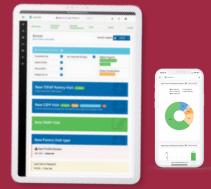
**Darla Walters**

*Agency Relations Manager*



# MEET OUR NEW REGISTRATION TEAM MEMBERS & IMPORTANT UPDATES!

From Erin EverGreen, Registration Manager



We've got some exciting news from your registration team! We're always working to make your experience smoother and more supportive, and part of that means growing our team.

## Welcome Teresa and Ansel!

We're thrilled to introduce the newest members of our registration family:

### Teresa Palomino and Ansel Taylor!

They've joined us as program assistants and are ready to jump in and help. You might see their names or hear their voices when you reach out with questions about registration or during future training sessions. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome!



## Important TEFAP form updates – effective immediately!

Good news regarding our TEFAP forms! We've received updated versions that are now effective immediately, replacing all previous forms. The great news is that you don't need to go back and update any forms that were completed after our big March 1 update. Only forms completed before March 1 need to be revised.

While the qualifications for benefits remain the same, we're happy to share that the **income eligibility has increased!** This is a significant change, so it's more important than ever to continue asking households if there have been any changes since their last visit. This is especially crucial for any households previously marked ineligible due to income – they may now qualify! Please take a moment to look into these cases.

## Ensuring a dignified experience for everyone

We are deeply committed to ensuring that all individuals have a dignified and meaningful experience when interacting with All Faiths Food Bank. This includes addressing language barriers. We want to remind everyone to do everything we can to accommodate and support individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). You can find resources in multiple languages in our agency portal to assist with this.

Providing clear communication and necessary assistance helps us serve our community effectively and compassionately. If you've noticed an area where language accommodations need more attention, please reach out to us so we can see what we can do to help!

## Questions? Need registration help?

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at [eevergreen@allfaithsfoodbank.org](mailto:eevergreen@allfaithsfoodbank.org).

For training requests, please submit forms by clicking [here](#) (you can also find this link on the agency portal).

**Erin EverGreen**  
Registration Coordinator

# MEET OUR NEW RETAIL STORE MANAGER

We're excited to introduce **Brittany McCourt**, AFFB's new **retail store donation coordinator**!

Brittany is incredibly kind, sweet and approachable — she's someone you'll find easy to talk to and full of knowledge about all things retail enablement and compliance.

In her role, Brittany manages and coordinates all aspects of retail store and distribution donations for our food bank. She builds strong relationships with retail partners, educates store teams on proper food donation guidelines, ensures quality control and oversees the agency enablement program. This means she also works closely with agencies to make sure they follow food safety standards, provide excellent service to our retail donors and meet documentation requirements.

Brittany is happy to speak with your agency about retail enablement compliance and goals, and she's always ready to answer questions and offer guidance.

Please don't hesitate to reach out — she looks forward to working with you and supporting your success!

**Ana Hernandez**  
*Agency Relations Coordinator*





# BUILDING SAFER PRACTICES TOGETHER:

## A SHOUTOUT TO CHUCK WOLBERT

We'd like to take a moment to recognize the excellent work of Chuck Wolbert, our extraordinary food procurement manager, for leading food safety trainings for our agency partners.

The on-site ServSafe Food Handler Guide for Food Banking trainings offer a comprehensive curriculum designed specifically for food bank employees, agency staff and volunteers. These sessions provide participants with a transferable, three-year certificate that agency volunteers can keep.

Chuck brings real-world scenarios and hands-on guidance to his trainings, covering key topics like proper hygiene, safe food storage and effective food handling procedures.

Thank you, Chuck, for strengthening our network, helping agencies improve their operations and recognizing the hard work they do every day.



Trinity United Methodist Church North Port team with Chuck Wolbert

**Ana Hernandez**  
*Agency Relations Coordinator*

# Peach Blackberry Smoothie



**ENDING  
HUNGER**  
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

Peach  
Blackberry  
Smoothie



This institution is an  
equal opportunity  
provider.

## Ingredients:

- 1 cup spinach
- 1.5 cups frozen sliced peaches
- 1/4 cup blackberries
- 1/2 cup non-fat or 1% milk\*
- \*Optional: 1/4 cup milk, 1/4 cup plain low-fat yogurt

## Directions:

1. Place spinach and milk in blender and blend until smooth
2. Add blackberries and peaches. Blend until smooth and creamy. Enjoy!



**ENDING  
HUNGER**  
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

Batido de  
melocotón y  
mora



This institution is an  
equal opportunity  
provider.

## Ingredientes:

- 1 taza de espinacas
- 1,5 tazas de duraznos en rodajas congelados
- 1/4 taza de moras
- 1/2 taza de leche descremada o al 1%\*
- \*Opcional: 1/4 taza de leche, 1/4 taza de yogur natural bajo en grasa

## Instrucciones:

1. Coloque las espinacas y la leche en la licuadora y mezcle hasta que quede suave.
2. Añade las moras y los duraznos. Licúa hasta obtener una mezcla homogénea y cremosa. ¡Disfruta!



**ENDING  
HUNGER**  
ALL FAITHS FOOD BANK

## Contact us!

**Darla Walters**, Agency Relations Manager – 941.379.6333 ext. 172

**Ana Hernandez**, Agency Relations Coordinator – 941.379.6333 ext. 141

**Erin EverGreen**, Client Registration Manager (Link2Feed) – 941.379.6333 ext. 143

**Amber Lee**, Senior Director of Programs – 941.549.8130