



# CONNECTION

News and information for friends of Freestore Foodbank

SUMMER 2020



## Feeding our community...together

The impact of COVID-19 has been felt all around the world and continues to have a devastating effect on our community. Families and individuals across the tristate area have had their lives turned upside down—the need has been unprecedented.

When our neighbors have needed you most, your generosity has been there—and all of us at Freestore Foodbank cannot say thank you enough for giving at such a crucial time.

You have made it possible to respond to the urgent needs of our community through emergency food boxes, pre-packed groceries for our Liberty Street Market customers, providing support to our Power Pack partners and so much more.

Unprecedented times require unprecedented responses, and your response has been inspiring. To our grocery partners, business partners, volunteers and supporters, thank you for going above and beyond at this difficult time to ensure our neighbors have access to the food they need.

**“In every way imaginable, supporters like you have been generous with their time, resources and talents.”**

—KURT REIBER,  
President and CEO,  
Freestore Foodbank



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## A message from our President & CEO

As we are all still feeling the impact of COVID-19 on our lives, I'm so grateful to see our strong community unite during times of crisis and rally around families, individuals and kids who don't know where their next meal is coming from.

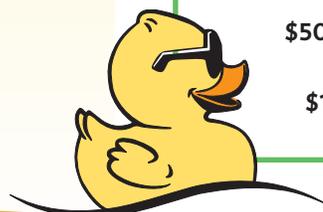
Your continued support is critical as we work to be flexible in these uncertain times and meet the needs of neighbors facing hunger wherever they live. Your generosity will make it possible for children, families and seniors to still receive the food they need in these difficult summer months.

Summer is typically one of the most challenging times of the year for working families—especially for the children. This year, with people losing income due to the COVID-19 or facing unexpected medical bills, the number of neighbors struggling to make ends meet has increased significantly in the tristate area.

Many of our programs might look different compared to previous years in light of all the challenges over the last few months, but your support ensures we can keep this important work going.

In every way imaginable, supporters like you have been generous with their time, resources and talents. We are grateful and wish you health and happiness this summer. Thank you for your continued partnership and generosity.

Kurt Reiber, President & CEO



# Time to Buy a Duck, Feed a Child!

The annual Rubber Duck Regatta might look different this year, but our goal remains unchanged: raising the necessary funds to help feed children and families facing hunger in the tristate area.

“We know that 8 out of 10 kids, especially during the summer months, struggle with food insecurity in our community,” says Kurt Reiber, President and CEO of Freestore Foodbank. “The Rubber Duck Regatta helps us raise awareness, but also raise resources for the families we serve.”

Due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19, we expect to have an event on September 6 as planned, but are working on the details to figure out what the Rubber Duck Regatta will look this year. Please be on the lookout for a letter in your mailboxes in the coming weeks, as raising funds for this event is still critical to helping provide food to the families we serve.

Visit [rubberduckregatta.org](http://rubberduckregatta.org) to get up-to-date information and buy your ducks. Remember, “Buy a Duck, Feed a Child!” Every \$5 you give can provide 15 meals for children facing hunger in the tristate area. Thank you for your generous support!



Buy a duck, feed a child. See how your generosity can make a difference!

### Buy your ducks today at [rubberduckregatta.org](http://rubberduckregatta.org)

- \$5 ➤ One duck = 15 meals for children
- \$25 “Big Quack” ➤ Five ducks, plus one free = 75 meals for children
- \$50 “Bob’s Quack Pack” ➤ Ten ducks, plus two free = 150 meals for children
- \$100 “Flock of Ducks” ➤ Twenty ducks, plus four free = 300 meals for children

# Your support helped when I needed it most



Elizabeth worked hard her entire life, trying to provide for herself and help take care of her mother, who had a disability. Then she found herself on an unexpected journey.

Both of Elizabeth's sisters had a problem with drug addiction—and unfortunately, it reached a point where they could no longer care for their children. Over a period of a couple of years, Elizabeth ended up with full custody of six children, none of them her own. Two of the children are on the autism spectrum.

“Life just got really tough,” Elizabeth says. “It got to the point where we needed some help. About a year after I took custody of the kids, my mother passed away. I became a single mom—an aunt-mommy, I guess.”

Thanks to your generosity, Elizabeth had somewhere to turn when she found it difficult to provide enough food to six growing children. She began to receive food and other support from Brighton Center, a partner agency of Freestore Foodbank.

The youngest of the six children is now at school during the day, which gives Elizabeth the opportunity to better the future of her family. She's working toward a degree in the healthcare technologies field.

Elizabeth says that donors have been angels in her life.

“The donors are often not seen, but they're the ones that make it happen. ‘Thank you’ just doesn't seem to be enough,” she says. “If we didn't have donors, where would we be? What they provide has helped my family get from one day to the next. The food is everything to families going through difficult times.”

Your support is vital to families like Elizabeth's. To help even more neighbors facing hunger, please visit [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org) and donate today. Thank you!

“What they provide has helped my family get from one day to the next.” —ELIZABETH

## Donor Spotlight

# A life of serving and generosity

Christine Piepmeier has been a Freestore Foodbank donor for more than 20 years. Giving back to the community has always been important to her. In high school, she began volunteering as a paramedic and continued this work for 20 years. Professionally, she taught special education in Butler County for 30 years and touched the lives of hundreds of students.



“Freestore Foodbank is the one agency I can count on to use every penny I donate to serve a lot of people,” says Christine.

In the past, Christine made monthly donations to Freestore Foodbank

automatically on her credit card. Last year, she learned she could start donating annually from her IRA.

“It's easy to make an IRA donation each year, and I don't miss the money,” she explained.

Christine also cares about ensuring that FSFB

will continue its mission for generations to come. To that end, Christine has made FSFB a beneficiary of her IRA. Upon her death, FSFB will be a recipient of the residual of the funds from her IRA. Since she notified FSFB last year of these plans, we are able to thank Christine today for her future gift that will leave a lasting legacy on the community.

To learn more about giving annually through your IRA or as a means to make a gift in your estate plan, contact Maureen Gregory at [mgregory@freestorefoodbank.org](mailto:mgregory@freestorefoodbank.org) or 513-482-7542.



## ICING ON THE CAKE

Are you at least 70½?

If so, you can make tax-free gifts directly from your IRA. Your gift to Freestore Foodbank will never count as income, but will always bring food, connection and hope to families in need. **Now that's icing on the cake!**

For more information about gifts from your IRA, contact Mindy Hammer at [mhammer@freestorefoodbank.org](mailto:mhammer@freestorefoodbank.org) or 513-482-7099, or visit Freestore Foodbank's website, [www.freestorefoodbank.org/take-action/make-donation/make-gift-stock](http://www.freestorefoodbank.org/take-action/make-donation/make-gift-stock)



TOMORROW'S HARVEST SOCIETY

# Help families in need—all summer long

Thousands of people in the tristate area are trying to put food on their table for their families this summer—just like Jessica.

For this single mother of a 9-year-old and 6-year-old, steady work has been hard to find lately. She works in masonry, so making ends meet is not a problem when she's working. When Jessica goes a long stretch with no work, however, covering all the bills and providing nutritious food for her family feels nearly impossible.

"It's been tough," Jessica says. "Having to tell your kids you can't feed them is hard."

Thanks to your generous support, she could visit one of our partner agencies and receive the fresh fruits, vegetables and basic staples her family needs to get through the month.

We have seen an increased need this summer with so many families being impacted by COVID-19. That's why your support today is crucial to ensure we can continue providing nutritious food to families facing hunger.

"Thank you for the help," Jessica says. "For people like me, it's just helping us get by."

Your continued generosity will help even more children, families and seniors facing hunger. We deeply appreciate your support!



**"Thank you for the help.  
For people like me, it's  
just helping us get by."**

—JESSICA

To give today, please return the enclosed reply slip along with your generous gift, or visit [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org). Remember, every \$1 can help provide 3 nutritious meals to neighbors in our community.

Photo has been changed to protect the privacy of the customers.

Stay connected to the work you support! Visit us at [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org)



**Yes, I want to provide healthy food for more children, families and seniors facing hunger in our community.**

**I've enclosed my tax-deductible gift of:**

\$250  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be a **Full Plate Partner** and commit to a monthly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. My first gift is enclosed.

I would like more information on including Freestore Foodbank in my will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy.

**Double my gift's impact.** I will ask my company to match my gift.  
Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your gift payable to: **Freestore Foodbank**  
1141 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45202 | 513-482-3663

## DONATE NOW

Your online gift will be put to work quickly. Please visit our website: [freestorefoodbank.org](http://freestorefoodbank.org)

**Double your gift's impact:** Many employers offer matching contributions dollar for dollar.

To find out if your employer has a matching gift program please contact your HR department.

Questions? Please call our Donor Relations Department at 513-482-FOOD (3663).

Please charge my gift on my credit card:  VISA  MC  AMEX  DISC

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON ACCOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY # \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ 40\_80618\_1021

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. We will send a receipt for your records.



MEMBER OF  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**

**Your gift changes lives!**