Help families in need—all summer long

Thousands of people in the tri-state 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!

To give today, please return the enclosed reply slip along with your generous gift, or visit freestorefoodbank.org.

Remember, every $1 can help provide 3 nutritious meals to neighbors in our community.

“Thank you for the help. For people like me, it’s just helping us get by.”

—JESSICA

Stay connected to the work you support! Visit us at freestorefoodbank.org
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 like 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 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!

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.

“She 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 and other support from Brighton Center, a partner agency of Freestore Foodbank.

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 20 years and touched the lives of hundreds of students.

“This is 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.

“Thanks to you, for that make a gift in your IRA. Your gift to Freestore Foodbank will never count as income, and it 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 Harmon at mharmon@freestorefoodbank.org or 513-482-7099 or visit Freestore Foodbank’s website www.freestorefoodbank.org/take-action/make-donation/make-gift-stock.

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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!

SUMMER 2020

freestorefoodbank.org
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 crisis 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

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Inside

KURT’S KORNER
A message from our President & CEO

DUCK REGATTA
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