

### YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

#### **QUARTERLY REPORT: OCT - DEC 2023**

## L. RON PRINGLE

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the past quarter, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible support we've received for



our mission to combat food insecurity. The Food Shuttle rose to meet the increased demands that fall hard on families with limited resources. Our donors and supporters leaned in to make sure we shared as much food as we could with as many families as possible. The turkey drop-offs and holiday food donations were fundamental in helping families over the busy holiday period, a time when festive joy can often be overshadowed by stress and darkness for community members facing hunger on a daily basis.

From our partnerships with Oak Foundation and 4 Others Foundation, to the generous team from Biogen who volunteered their time at a number of our sites, to Mobile Markets volunteers braving the cold weather to serve our neighbors, your generosity has made a significant impact on the lives of many individuals and families in need. Iglesia La Semilla UMC alone coordinates multiple Mobile Markets each month, with each serving over 300 people. It's that kind of support that changes the lives of those struggling to put food on the table. Our partner collaboration is the backbone of our efforts, allowing us to reach more individuals in need. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient community.

Our organization has continued to solidify its position as a leading force in the fight to end hunger. Our dedicated team works tirelessly to expand our impact. By leveraging our experience and forming strategic partnerships, we have been able to navigate challenges effectively and adapt to the evolving needs of the communities we serve.

The need has remained high at levels we have not seen since the beginning of the pandemic. We cannot do this without you, and we thank you for your unwavering commitment to walking this path with us. We believe by empowering individuals, we can create lasting solutions and help build a more resilient and self-sufficient society. A community taking care of community: the solution to ending hunger.

L. Ron Pringle
President and CEO

## More Than Just Food: How Education is Empowering Neighbors at Work, School, and Home

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle provides emergency food assistance but also offers education resources to help neighbors on their path to self-sufficiency.

In December, our Culinary Apprenticeship Program (CAP) celebrated its first graduating class since 2019. CAP provides education and practical skills to help unemployed or under-employed neighbors find careers in the culinary industry.

Our Diabetes Education for Seniors program, which helps seniors better manage and cope with diabetes through exercise, monitoring, healthy coping mechanisms, and dietary choices, also celebrated 17 graduates in December. The graduates packed Food Shuttle tote bags with 'sick day' items to help them maintain healthy blood sugar levels and stay hydrated when under the weather.

Finally, our Agriculture Education team completed a six-week field trip series with students from Exploris Middle School, who learned about recyclable and compostable resources and made take-home biodegradable planters. The Agriculture Education team also hosted a teacher training for staff at Bugg Elementary School who were interested in developing a school garden.



Pictured: CAP graduates Elton Ivory, Shantane Pierce, and Kiara Garner

# OCTOBER DECEMBER 2023 IMPACT

#### CHILD HUNGER

24,504 BackPack Buddies Distributed9,226 Familes Served Through School Pantries101 Community Health Education Participants

#### **SENIOR NUTRITION**

4,052 Grocery Bags for Seniors Delivered

#### **FARMS & GARDENS**

49 Gardens For Everyone Built3,173 Pounds of Produce Harvested81 Agricultural Education Participants

#### **FOOD RECOVERY & DISTRIBUTION**

**3,132,805** Pounds of Food Distributed **310,210** Number of Neighbors Served Through All Our Programs

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

5,467 Volunteer Hours Engaged Across All Our Programs

#### **COUNTIES WE SERVE:**

Orange Durham Wake Chatham Johnston Nash Edgecombe



### FOOD SHUTTLE CELEBRATES STAFF HONOR

Shy Palmer, Community Garden Coordinator at Camden Street Learning Garden, has been accepted by NC State Extension's 2024 NC Farm School, a strategic business planning program. The program leverages the network and expertise of NC Extension and local farmers to increase the number of successful farms in NC.

"I am deeply passionate about agriculture. It allows me to weave my commitment to community, equity, my mission-driven mindset, and my passion for people into the fabric of our food systems. Working in agriculture is far more than just a profession for me; it's a purpose."

- Shy Palmer

Please join us in congratulating Shy on this prestigious honor!



## A DECADE OF GIVING TO SUPPORT BACKPACK BUDDIES

Trinity Baptist Church has been supporting the Food Shuttle's mission for 10 years! This year, they fundraised for our BackPack Buddies program through North Raleigh Ministries with two events: the North Hills 5k and the ROC'N Golf Tournament. Together, these events raised a total of \$27,942! BackPack Buddies provides weekend meals that help to ensure children get the nutrition they need to grow and thrive. Funding supports purchase of non-perishable foods. Thanks to Trinity Baptist Church, amazing church volunteers, and all who participated in these events, more children will be served though this wonderful program.

#### **PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION**

The partnerships highlighted below show the breadth and depth by which our community partners with us to envision a hunger free community. Thank you for the part you play in this critical mission.



Oak Foundation and 4 Others Foundation were our incredible match partners for our end-of-year giving campaign, matching each gift up to \$100,000. Thanks to their partnership and the generosity of our community, we raised \$492,188!



Mike Kasopsky has been volunteering with Gardens for Everyone nearly once a week since April 2023, assisting with 9 builds in the past quarter alone! He is a joy to work with and always available for last-minute needs.



The Carolina Hurricanes stopped by in November to donate 250 turkey breasts. Their support, along with others who donated turkeys, made the holiday season brighter for our neighbors at risk of hunger. Thank you, Canes...and Stormy!



Iglesia La Semilla is one of over 200 incredible Food Shuttle partners who move food into the hands of hungry neighbors. Hosting multiple Mobile Markets each month in various locations throughout our service area, they serve over 1000 neighbors monthly!



Thank you to **Deloitte Consulting** for volunteering with us in November! One volunteer team prepared healthy snack bags for our neighbors while two other teams packed and delivered over 150 grocery bags for our Grocery Bags for Seniors program.



The incredible **Biogen** team volunteered at the Food Shuttle in October and served as our inaugural Adopt-a-Day team! This new concept allows larger groups to engage with the Food Shuttle by volunteering across several of our sites at once.

## CULTIVATE AN END TO HUNGER ALL YEAR LONG



As a **CULTIVATOR Monthly Sustaining Donor**, you will be recognized as a leading partner in building a just community in which all residents have access to the healthy food, knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to thrive all year long.

Join a community of *Cultivators* at a minimum of \$10 per month and we'll send you a durable, reusable tote that will tell the world that you support long-term, sustainable solutions to ending hunger.

Visit www.FoodShuttle.org/Cultivators to learn more and join!



Donate and partner with us to improve the health and well-being of our communities.

FoodShuttle.org/GiveNow

- Volunteer in-person or virtually with us. FoodShuttle.org/Volunteer
- Sign up for our e-newsletter.
  Follow us on social media and use our hashtags!
- @foodshuttle



@foodshuttle



#FoodShuttle #FeedTeachGrow #HungerisFixable

Learn More





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