



**Harry Chapin Food Bank**  
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

# VOLUNTEER VIBES

Serving Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties

November 2018

## ‘Let’s Feed Lee’ a Great Partnership Of Publix, United Way and Food Bank

The 87,840 people and children who are food-insecure in Lee County got a big boost from the “Let’s Feed Lee” food drive on Sept. 29. That’s when the **Harry Chapin Food Bank** teamed with **United Way of Lee County** and **Publix Super Markets’** 35 stores here, raising \$10,733 and 47,488 pounds of food from generous area residents.

“Since September is Hunger Action Month, the ‘Let’s Feed Lee’ food

drive was the perfect way to wind up a month of raising hunger awareness,” said Richard LeBer, President and CEO of the Harry Chapin Food Bank.

In coordinated shifts, 363 volunteers presented shoppers between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. with lists of the most needed items, among them canned fish or chicken, beans, breakfast bars, cooking oil, pasta and sauce. Thanks to all who volunteered and donated!



### SAVE THE DATES...

• **Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018, and Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019, 9 to 11:30 a.m. Family Volunteer Day in Fort Myers and Naples.** Children and parents have fun learning how the Food Bank feeds those who are hungry in our community. Call (239) 334-7007, Tanya Phillips ext. 141 or Todd Lewis ext. 204.

• **Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019: WINK Feeds Families Hunger Walk at Miromar Outlets.** The Food Bank’s signature event draws more than 1,000 participants who pledge to fight hunger! (See next page for information on how you can help.)

*(Photo far left) Julia Humble, age 8, at the Publix at Del Prado and U.S. 41 with her mother, Agne Gajjaouskaite, who was earning class credits for her elementary education degree.*

*(Photo left) This man donated about 20 bags of food, but wished to remain anonymous. He said he used to go to Harry Chapin concerts and had tickets to the concert scheduled for the day after Harry died tragically in a car crash in 1981.*

### TRACKING OUR VOLUNTEERS

*(July 1, 2018, to Sept. 30, 2018)*

**Volunteers: 1,448**

**Collier County hours: 1,760**

**Mobile pantry hours: 1,836**

**Total hours: 10,199**

**Value of volunteer hours: \$251,813.31**

**Pounds packed/sorted: 1,295,547**

**Total meals: 1,079,623**

## Many Opportunities for You to Volunteer!

**Donation Receiving:** May require lifting heavy boxes (up to 40 pounds), weighing and recording donation according to standard procedures. Weekday shifts of 8 to 10 a.m., 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., 12 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

**Mobile Pantry Captain:** Work with driver to direct volunteers in setting up tables; unloading food; registering clients; distributing food to clients; breaking down and cleaning up area; loading unused items into truck. About 2.5 hours on site.

**Team-building Captain:** Lead business/community groups in sorting donations using standard procedures. May require lifting heavy boxes (up to 40 pounds), assessing products are in good condition, weighing products, setting up pallets.

**Packing Event Volunteers:** Lead groups in packing bulk rice and beans off site. May require lifting heavy bags (up to 50 pounds), filling and sealing bags correctly, assisting with set-up and clean-up of stations.

**Interested?** Contact Tanya Phillips at (239) 334-7007, ext. 141.

**The Food Bank will be closed:** For Thanksgiving, Nov. 22-25; Christmas, Dec. 22-25; New Year’s Day, Jan. 1, 2019; and Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 21, 2019.

**Your financial support is always appreciated!**

## Make Plans Now For Hunger Walk!

It's the 11th year of the **WINK Feeds Families Hunger Walk**, presented by Bill Smith Appliances & Electronics. Join the 2-mile walk at Miromar Outlets in Estero on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. At [winkhungerwalk.com](http://winkhungerwalk.com), you can register, make a pledge, form a team, or volunteer as greeter or cheerleader. Contact John Kuhn at [jkuhn@harrychapinfoodbank.org](mailto:jkuhn@harrychapinfoodbank.org).

## Groups Come on Site to Fight Hunger

September was a busy time at the Food Bank's Fort Myers distribution center:

- Two separate groups from **Florida Southwestern State College Nursing Program** showed their enthusiasm and support on Sept. 17.
- The **Leadership Bonita** team (photo below) toured the warehouse on Sept. 19 and then packed bags for the Care & Share: Senior Feeding Campaign, sorted cucumbers and painted a decorative pallet to hang on our wall.
- Volunteers from the **Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce** assisted at the warehouse on Sept. 20.



AFP Collier-Lee Chapter for National Philanthropy Day named Lois Thome — WINK News anchor and enthusiastic Food Bank volunteer — a “distinguished volunteer.” But we knew that!

## Food Bank Reaches out With Hurricane Relief

When Hurricane Irma hit Southwest Florida, friends in other cities lent helping hands. So, when Hurricanes Florence and Michael crushed the Carolinas and Florida Panhandle, our Food Bank sent some staff northward — Dennis Hall, Fort Myers warehouse manager, and Mike Davis, retail logistics manager, to North Carolina; Eric Hitzeman, director of operations, Nelson Virella, warehouse driver, Edson Pagan, CDL driver, and Jose Soto-Cruz, mobile pantry coordinator, to Tallahassee.

**Harry Chapin Food Bank**  
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

### FORT MYERS:

3760 Fowler St.  
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

### NAPLES:

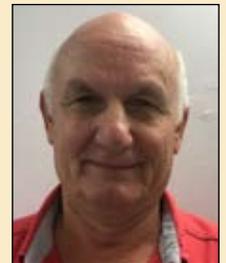
3940 Prospect Ave. #101  
Naples, Florida 34104  
Phone: (239) 334-7007

[harrychapinfoodbank.org](http://harrychapinfoodbank.org)

## 35 Reasons to Volunteer at the Food Bank

Spotlighting the Food Bank's 35th anniversary in 2018

**Luke Kocher:** *“I learned about the Harry Chapin Food Bank as a volunteer at my local food bank in Madison, Wisc. Now retired and in Fort Myers part of the year, I volunteer three days a week at the Fort Myers warehouse. I’ve worked the produce room and bagged food. What better way to give back to the community than harvesting food that would be thrown away for people in need?”*



**Karl Haas:** *“When I retired in 2014, I did online research and found the Harry Chapin Food Bank. I realized there was no better thing to do than help people get food. I volunteer two mornings a week at the extremely well-organized Naples warehouse. They use our time well, and I feel good about going there — and I keep coming back.”*



CONTACT US TO VOLUNTEER, DONATE  
or SCHEDULE A TOUR: (239) 334-7007

Look for us on:



A member of  
**FEEDING AMERICA**

**United Way**  
Partner Agency

