MILITARYSHARE

Second Harvest’s new MilitaryShare program, launched in January, provides dry goods, fresh produce, dairy, and lean meat to veteran, reserve, and active duty military members and their families at sites across Lehigh, Northampton, and Monroe counties. It’s a true veterans-helping-veterans initiative; many of the boxes are packed by volunteers from military and veteran organizations.

One in every five families who use a food pantry within the Feeding America network has a veteran in the home.

“There are active service members and more than 65,000 veterans in Second Harvest’s six-county region, and at times some of those men, women and their families fall on hard times,” says Rick Hamp, Special Assistant to the Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs, Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. “Thanks to MilitaryShare, veterans and service members in need who defended our freedoms so that the rest of us can live and eat without worry, can do the same in their households.”

We’re just getting started... and as the program grows, we’ll continue to expand the sites where MilitaryShare is available.

Orange you glad to give to those who serve? Home Depot associates take a break after volunteering to pack MilitaryShare boxes.

RED, WHITE, & BLUE... AND ORANGE

We’ve grown accustomed to the color of bright orange. That’s because Team Depot, Home Depot’s associate-led volunteer force, has become a staple here in our warehouse, helping us to sort food and pack boxes, and always doing so in a signature orange shirt! The Home Depot has also supplied funds that have helped us launch our MilitaryShare program.

Shannon Brown, Regional Services Manager, is proud: “The Home Depot truly lives and breathes our values from the top leaders down. We are dedicated to giving back to those who have already given so much for our country, and with more than 35,000 veteran associates, taking care of veterans is very personal to us, which is why we are a proud supporter of the MilitaryShare program.”
THE SEED FARM’S ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Set up your garden for success and help to ensure the future of farming!

The Spring Plant Sale features a variety of high quality plants for your home garden. Choose from a selection of 100+ popular varieties of vegetables, herbs, and flowers, all grown locally at The Seed Farm in Emmaus. All plants are grown without synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, or genetically modified seeds.

We expect our merger with The Seed Farm to be complete by summer.

Visit theseedfarm.org for more information

The Coolest Guy at Second Harvest

Q&A with Dave Cool, Agency Relations Coordinator

Dave has worked at Second Harvest for more than ten years, starting out on our warehouse crew. When he’s not on the job, he enjoys spending time with his family, fishing, and coaching his daughter’s softball team. We caught up with him for a Q&A about his role in the agency.

Q: What does your job entail?
A: As agency relations coordinator, my main job is to see that each of our 200 nonprofit member agencies are trained and follow the rules and regulations set by the U.S. and PA departments of agriculture, Feeding America, and Second Harvest Food Bank. I also handle the bidding, purchasing, and financial flow of our several food purchasing programs here. I am able to help our member agencies stretch their dollars and purchase more food for their pantries while spending less, ensuring they can serve more families.

Q: What’s your favorite part of your job?
A: Knowing that I have a chance to help those who struggle with hunger.

Q: How would you describe the volunteers and pantry coordinators with whom you work?
A: They are vital to our mission! Without their dedication, we wouldn’t be able to serve our neighbors in need across our six-county service area. We have 200 member agencies and most are run solely by individuals volunteering their time to serve their community!

Q: What’s something that you think people struggle to understand about poverty and hunger?
A: The majority of the people going to pantries are our neighbors and they are working multiple jobs to try to make ends meet.
MEET OUR CORNUCOPIA SOCIETY

A group of supporters who commit $1,000 or more each year to supporting Second Harvest’s mission.

“It is unthinkable that there are families in our community that have to worry about where their next meal will come from. No one should suffer from food insecurity in the United States.”

- John and Barbara Diamant

Visit shfblv.org or call us at 484.287.4015 to learn more about our giving societies.

INTRODUCING THE SUPPER CLUB

A group of supporters who contribute monthly gifts providing sustainable funding to help us serve families all year long. Your monthly donation makes a big impact:

<table>
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<th>$15</th>
<th>$25</th>
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<td>90 meals per month</td>
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<td>300 meals per month</td>
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96% of donations go directly to programs and helping families in need. Help us put more food on more tables.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Radwan Jarrouj

Member Agency: Syrian Arab American Charity Association (SAACA) Food Program

Length of service: 28 years

The SAACA food program serves more than 300 families each month in Allentown’s 1st and 6th ward communities and is the only program serving the region’s growing Arabic speaking population.

Many in the organization feel that this critical program would not exist without the diligence and commitment of Radwan Jarrouj’s volunteer efforts.

Since his retirement from Bethlehem Steel, Radwan puts in 20-30 hours of volunteer service every week. Often working by himself, Radwan picks up all of the food donations from Second Harvest and many grocery stores and oversees pantry operations. Radwan also works directly with the families SAACA serves.

We were honored to present Radwan with our Alice Anne Miller Hunger Hero Award for his remarkable commitment to Second Harvest’s mission.

LITTLE BITES

Last year 1,655 volunteers came through our doors and helped us sort, pack, and distribute food to families in need. We can’t say it enough – we couldn’t do what we do without the help of volunteers. Get involved and visit shfblv.org to learn more about our various volunteer opportunities and internships!
SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, October 20, 2018
6-9 PM
to join us for an extraordinary evening, and help us fill the empty bowls in our community!

HAMILTON CROSSINGS
707 N. Krocks Road, Allentown, PA
Live Entertainment | Prizes
Drop Off Donations

2ND ANNUAL HAMILTON CROSSINGS CanJam for hunger
HamiltonCrossings.com | @HamiltonCrossings
For every $1 donated, we can provide six meals to the families that need them most.

Donate online at shblv.org

Second Harvest FOOD BANK
6969 Silver Crest Road | Nazareth, PA 18064 | 484.287.4015

Second Harvest Food Bank of Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania is a program of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (CACLV). CACLV is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, contributions to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. The official registration and financial information of CACLV may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Food Truck Food Drive
Saturday, April 27
WFMZ and Dorney Park will host the third annual Food Truck Food Drive in the Dorney Park parking lot. It’s a food truck festival with admission being a donation of food or funds to Second Harvest.

Music for Meals
Saturday, May 4
Join local Rotary Clubs at Miller Symphony Hall in Allentown for an evening of Eric Clapton music performed by the Craig Thatcher Band! Concert proceeds will be distributed to area Rotarians to support hunger projects in their service territory and there will be a food drive benefitting Second Harvest prior to the show. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

Can Jam for Hunger
Saturday, September 14
Join Cat Country 96, 100.7 WLEV, and the Goldenberg Group for this second annual event featuring food, live music, and family-friendly fun at the Hamilton Crossings in Allentown! Attendees are encouraged to donate non-perishable food items or make a monetary donation to Second Harvest.

Empty Bowls
Saturday, October 19
Mark your calendars for our annual Empty Bowls dinner held here in our Food Bank warehouse. Stay tuned for more details!

UPCOMING EVENTS