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Hardworking Families Have Help, Thanks to You

You’re Nourishing Young Minds!
Letter from the President & CEO

Thank You for Helping Children Grow and Thrive

Dear Friend,

Children across Middle Tennessee have been squirming with excitement about the end of the school year. With two months to play in the sunshine and enjoy being a kid, many boys and girls across our communities will be celebrating summer vacation.

But summer doesn’t seem so joyous for all children. That last school bell can signal the start of a very uncertain season. Without the free and reduced-price meals they’re able to eat in the cafeteria each weekday, kids in need can experience summer as the hungriest time of year.

As a mother and grandmother, I know how important good food is for growing children. Together, we must do all we can to nourish these youngsters over the summer, to eliminate the risk that they fall behind academically when they return to school.

That’s why we recently launched our 2017 Hunger Free Summer campaign — to ensure local students who are at an increased risk of hunger have access to the nutritious food they need to thrive this summer and beyond. Our goal is to raise enough funds to provide 4 million meals for children and their families facing hunger. But this can only be done with your support.

Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee’s critical summer feeding initiative distributes balanced meals to community centers, libraries, day camps, schools and other enrichment programs. You can learn about how one such program in the small town of Big Sandy is making a difference for hungry students on page 8 of this special summer edition of Table Topics.

Your gifts are revealed in the lives of the children, parents and teachers who have expressed just how much your generosity means to them.

When children in need have healthy food on the table, they’re better able to break the cycle of poverty — which means a stronger community for us all. Thank you for helping ensure these children — our future — don’t have to experience the pain of hunger this summer.

All my best,

Jaynee K. Day
President & CEO

You can view past issues of our newsletter and our current donor acknowledgment page online at secondharvestmidtn.org/news-room. Your suggestions and comments for Table Topics are always appreciated! Please send an email to news@secondharvestmidtn.org.
Your Gifts Fuel Kids’ Success!

The alarming reality is that even short periods of time without access to consistent nutrition can have long-term negative effects on a child’s health and well-being. Mariano Hayes, recreational leader at Easley Community Center, understands this challenge all too well.

“It’s pretty close to being a food desert out here, so a lot of kids wouldn’t be getting the proper nutrition they need to grow, or don’t know what it is to eat healthy,” he says.

The Community Center hosts a Second Harvest Kids Cafe, which provides at-risk children with healthy meals and snacks during the school year and throughout the summer. Mariano says if it weren’t for its partnership with Second Harvest, the Center wouldn’t be able to provide enough food for the kids in its care.

Located on the south side of Nashville, Easley Community Center serves around 150 to 200 children. In addition to helping meet students’ food needs, the Center offers bimonthly nutrition classes, sports leagues, homework assistance, games and arts and crafts.

Girls and boys typically don’t go home from the Center’s after-school program until after 6 p.m., so the healthy snacks and meals are essential to keeping them focused on schoolwork and energized for sports and recreation. In the summer, snacks from Second Harvest help fuel kids’ success all day long!

Mariano sees the needs of his community’s children firsthand. Because he knows how much your gifts help, he was excited to share his gratitude with you on behalf of the families he serves.

“Your contributions are greatly appreciated because funding is not readily available to provide food to the inner city [children],” he says.

Thank you for ensuring local children have the healthy meals they need to thrive!

“Your contributions are greatly appreciated.”

Let Us Cater Your Next Event!

Our Culinary Arts Center offers facility rental and catering services.

~On and off-site catering available~

Learn more at secondharvestmidtn.org/cac or call 615-329-3491

First Harvest Café
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesdays ($8)
Fridays ($12)
You’re Helping Feed Hungry Tennesseans All Summer

**FARM TO FAMILIES**

This summer, the Farm to Families program invites you to volunteer with us at our partner farms and gardens around Nashville. Volunteers will help cultivate and harvest produce that will be distributed directly to families around Middle Tennessee. Help us achieve our goal of providing fresh, local produce to families in need. Opportunities are available for ages 7+, and no prior experience is required. Visit secondharvestmidtn.org/farm or email us at farm@secondharvestmidtn.org for more information.

**“ODE TO OTHA” BIRTHDAY PARTY CELEBRATION**

Each year, Nashvillian Bill Ramsey hosts a birthday bash honoring Otha Turner, his lifetime of music and his legacy. To learn more, visit othaturner.com/party.html.

June 3, 2017
2-9 pm
$30 donations at the door (Children under 12 are free)
Proceeds benefit Second Harvest Food Bank
1711 Sweetbriar Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee

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**STARS FOR SECOND HARVEST**

Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee is gearing up for the 13th Annual Stars for Second Harvest concert on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 7:30pm at the historic Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, TN. Presented by O’Charley’s, hosted by Craig Wiseman and with new Stage Sponsor, Nissan, this is an evening not to be missed. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit secondharvestmidtn.org/stars.

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**

In honor of National Volunteer Month, we celebrated our volunteers on April 23, at our second annual Volunteer Appreciation Day. This year, we recognized several volunteers through our “Golden Pallet Awards.”

2017 Volunteer Award Recipients

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Award Category</th>
<th>Volunteer or Group</th>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer of the Year</td>
<td>Mark and Karen Strakbein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culinary Arts Center</td>
<td>Benjamin Hagler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends of the Food Bank</td>
<td>Lee Cunningham</td>
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<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>Mary Beth Pacsi</td>
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<td>Family Night</td>
<td>Zerfas Family</td>
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<td>Corporate Group</td>
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<td>Corporate Group</td>
<td>Bridgestone Americas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Group</td>
<td>New Neighbors</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Group</td>
<td>Community Based Transition at United Methodist Publishing</td>
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Congratulations to the award winners, and thank you to all of our volunteers who tirelessly work to support our mission every day!
Elizabeth Smith, known by many as “Punky,” was a devoted supporter of Second Harvest’s work for more than 20 years. Each year she expanded her financial partnership, through gifts of stock and support of children’s feeding programs, which she deemed “the best cause in Nashville.” She also regularly volunteered her time at Second Harvest to stay connected to our mission.

Shortly after Elizabeth passed away in 2016, we learned she’d made fighting hunger a lasting part of her legacy by including Second Harvest in her estate plans.

Her brother, Joe, traveled to Nashville from his home in Maryland to stay by her side during her final days. As he sat with Elizabeth in her hospital room, she revised her will. It was there she learned how deep her dedication was to helping hungry families, children and seniors in her own community. He later visited our distribution center to learn more about the organization his sister cared so much about.

“I was quite impressed, even more so knowing my sister’s connection,” Joe says. “It’s an enormous operation.”

Elizabeth quietly battled breast cancer for many years, but few people knew about the challenges she faced with her health. Joe says she told a friend that she refused to let cancer interfere with her life, no matter how much time she had left.

Marian Eidson, Manager - Major Gifts, who relished her time with Elizabeth, described her as upbeat and energetic. She traveled the world and spent her free time reading, knitting and ballroom dancing. Elizabeth practiced law in Nashville for 37 years, co-founded a local business and was a dedicated member of Belmont United Methodist Church and the Brentwood Morning Rotary Club. In 2014, her fellow Rotarians honored her by establishing the annual Elizabeth J. Smith Scholarship in her name.

It’s difficult to put the impact of her generosity into words. Countless neighbors across Middle Tennessee have Elizabeth to thank for the nutritious food on their tables — and her commitment to solving hunger will bring hope to others for years to come. We are so very grateful for her enduring support.
As you’re well aware, children who depend on school meal programs are at an increased risk of hunger during the summer months because they lose access to these vital programs. This summer, your gifts are being used to fill the plates of children like Keyvonta, 8, with balanced meals.

Keyvonta lives with his little brother, 6, and father, Gerald, in Gallatin. His dad does his best to provide for the boys as a school facility manager, but he sometimes finds affording enough food to be tough — especially during the summer months.

Fortunately, Keyvonta is able to visit Gallatin Shalom Zone, an after-school and summertime meal and enrichment program not far from his home. As a Second Harvest Partner Agency, Shalom Zone’s summer camp provides 85 children with breakfast from Second Harvest and other meals with the help of local churches.

The program focuses on physical fitness, literacy, and many creative activities.

When classes are in session, Keyvonta and other students head to Shalom Zone after school to enjoy outdoor activities, share a warm dinner and do homework. Teachers at Shalom Zone communicate with those at local schools to update them on students’ curriculum and behavior.

P.J. Davis, Shalom Zone’s executive director, says kids’ grades get better with the more time they spend in the program. “It improves behavior, focus, energy and everything that goes with food,” she says of the meal program provided through your support.

Keyvonta’s dad was recently able to secure a second, part-time job doing custodial work for Shalom Zone, and he says it’s great to see his son access help with schoolwork and share a healthy meal with his friends. Gerald has so much appreciation for supporters like you who make it all possible.

“He’s around more kids, learning new stuff and has help with homework,” Gerald says. “I appreciate what you’re doing. It’s really been a help to my son.”

I appreciate what you’re doing.

Feeding Hope™
Big Sandy is a community of around 540 people a couple hours west of Nashville. One of Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee’s Partner Agencies — Big Sandy Christian Community Outreach Center (CCOC) — provides nutritious food for about a third of the town’s population.

Through its partnerships with organizations like Second Harvest, the Center provides both after-school and summer programs for children, delivers meals to homebound individuals, distributes emergency food boxes and serves hot meals daily. And as part of their ambitious goal to provide a holistic approach to meeting the community’s nutritional needs, they hope to eventually open a food pantry, too.

Greg Hauck is the pastor, president and CEO of Big Sandy CCOC, and his wife, Wendy, serves as its secretary. With students’ upcoming summer break from school, they’re anticipating an increase in need. They estimate that more than half the children they serve aren’t able to access enough nutritious meals at home during the summer months.

“Lots of families can’t afford daycare, so our organization [makes sure] that the kids eat over the summer and holidays,” Wendy says.

Big Sandy CCOC’s children’s programs also include art projects, dance class, exercise and more. Participants learn about nutrition and grow fresh produce themselves in a community garden down the street from the Center.

Greg and Wendy say they wouldn’t be able to provide food assistance without their partnership with Second Harvest — and they know what a vital role friends like you play in providing meals and groceries.

“When you hear that families go without, it’s just heartbreaking,” Wendy says. “To me, your donations mean that children and families don’t go hungry, and that’s the bottom line.”

Communities across Middle and West Tennessee are so grateful for your partnership. Thank you for ensuring our neighbors have access to nutritious food!
The following organizations and individuals for donations received through food drives:

Aegon Science Corporation
Aldi
Alpha Gamma Delta TR Circle Arby’s
Asurion
Avalon Hospice
Aveda Institute
Back to Bethel Empowerment Center
Battle Ground Academy
Bed, Bath & Beyond
Belmont University
Berkshire Hathaway Home Services
Bishops Storehouse Church Blendedotia
Bosch
Bridgestone
Brookmeade Church
Browning & Gordon
BSP Preceptor Epsilon
Buffalo Soldier Motorcycle Club
Church of Latter Day Saints
Spotlight
Community Health Systems
Congregation Micah
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Dan Mills Elementary School
Davidson County Sheriff’s Office
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First Presbyterian Church
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Save A Lot
Smile Direct Club
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UNUM
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YMCA Green Hills

Mid-South Food Bank
Palmer Food Service
Panera
Phoenix Foods
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Sam’s Club
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Smithfield Foods
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Southern Valley
Sprouts
Starbucks
Stout Burgers and Beers
Sysco
Target
Taylor Farms Tennessee, Inc.
Try The World
Tyson Foods, Inc.
Vega
Wal-mart
Well’s Blue Bunny
West Farms
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The following organizations for their generous donation of food:

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Associated Wholesale Grocers
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Bimbo Bakeries
Blentopia
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Cash Savers
ConAgra Foods
Costco
Country Delite Farms
Dannon
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Dean Foods
Dole
Doug Andrus
Edible Arrangements
FBT Inc.
Food Giant
Food Lion
Forgotten Harvest
Fresh Market
FreshPoint
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Goo Goo Cluster
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McCain Food
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Mr. Keith Beckman
Ms. Joy Benge
Ms. Julie Biessiada
Mr. and Mrs. J. William Blevins
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Ms. Angela Nguyen
Mrs. Mary K. Nichols Jr.

We are so grateful for the extensive community support that Second Harvest received this past quarter*. Thanks to all of you for your volunteer hours, donated food, goods, services and financial contributions!
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The following corporations who have donated $500 or more:

- Aegis Sciences Corporation
- Ajax Turner Co. Inc.
- Annette & Irwin Eskind Family Foundation
- Ascend Federal Credit Union
- AT&T Services, Inc.
- Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations, LLC
- Camden Eye Care Associates
- Carroll Bank and Trust
- Charity Circle of Murfreesboro
- CLARCOR Foundation
- Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated
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- Cummins Engine Foundation
- Dan and Margaret Maddox Charitable Fund
- Dana Corporation
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- Dollar General Corporation
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- Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation
- Farm Credit Services of Mid-America
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- Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation
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- Joy in Childhood Foundation
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