

October - December 2021



**Shared Harvest**

**FOODBANK**

**OUR MISSION**

To find, rescue and distribute food to people living in poverty through an efficient network, uniting the public and private sectors; To raise awareness of the impact of poverty.

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



## A Letter From Our Director...

As I write this, my family is battling our second round of COVID, entire school districts have closed due to staff shortages, our volunteer base has diminished as businesses suspend corporate volunteer activities, the cost of food is skyrocketing, and concern about more transmissible strands of COVID perpetuates a general state of fatigue. With all of this, I can't help but wonder, "Is this our new normal?"

But what is normal really? The reality is that "normal" is subjective. For more than one out of every ten members of our community, normal is a constant state of struggle: broke down vehicles, inability to find affordable childcare, past due medical bills preventing access to a doctor or few providers who accept Medicaid/Medicare, unhealthy food options because a \$.23 cent box of mac and cheese can fill a child's tummy more than a single green pepper that costs \$1, high utility bills due to poor insulation, and the list goes on.

Perhaps the rest of us have entered a "normal" that many have been dealing with for years where limitations, hindrances, roadblocks, setbacks, and disappointments are more the norm than the exception. So how do we cope? I read a quote recently from an unknown author that states, "If you can't change your circumstances, change your perspective."

This is what I offer to you – a different perspective. There is so much in life that is out of our control, but we can choose to be kind. We can choose to be patient. And we can choose to help our neighbor. In doing so, we may even help ourselves.

Thank you for your support.

*Terry L. Perdue*  
TERRY PERDUE

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Gary Cornett**  
Chair  
Community Volunteer

**Russ White**  
Vice Chair  
Retired, Frito Lay

**Patricia Plavko**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Frost, Brown, Todd LLC

**Terri Coffey**  
The Kroger Company

**Bryan Cooper**  
Woodforest National Bank

**Debbie Jones**  
Community Volunteer

**Eric Knapke**  
Kroger

**Mark Lunt**  
Lunt Associates, Inc.

**Mike Sullivan**  
Retired, Meijer

**Steve Woody**  
Retired, Kroger



# Holiday Food Drives

In 2020, we had to temporarily suspend accepting food drive donations due to the pandemic. We were happy to be able to encourage our community supporters to begin collecting again this holiday season, and they didn't disappoint!

**OVER 30,000 LBS WERE COLLECTED WHICH EQUATES TO MORE THAN 25,000 MEALS TO HOUSEHOLDS IN NEED FOR THE HOLIDAYS.**

## 40 COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS PARTICIPATED

- Art in Motion
- Atrium Medical Center
- Aveda
- Bilstein
- Brands Insurance Company
- BSA Scouting for Food
- Buckeye Plumbing
- Busam Subaru
- Butler County Bar Association
- Butler County Mental Health & Addiction Board
- Carmax
- Contech
- Crème de la Crème
- CTL Aerospace
- Dagda's Cauldron
- Dayspring Montessori
- Delta Kappa Gamma
- EICK Academy
- Express Scripts
- Fairfield HS Butler Tech
- First Financial Bank
- G02 Partners
- HiTek Manufacturing
- Hollister
- Intervala LLC
- JF Burns
- Lakota Lakes Apartments
- Manheim
- Performance Food Service
- Phoenix Group
- PoleZero
- Primrose School Mason
- Primrose School South Lebanon
- Ransohoff
- ResCare of Fairfield
- Scene 75 Milford
- Sentricks - Liberty Twp Office
- Showcase Cinemas
- Southern Champion Tray
- StageBio Mason Lab



# Legacy Send Off

This year, we celebrated the retirement of one of Shared Harvest Foodbank's longest term employees.

Darrell has been with us from almost the start and while many of our team members know how he came to work for Shared Harvest and his journey throughout, it only seemed fitting that our founding director share in her words just what Darrell means to our organization and the community we serve



If we are lucky, we meet someone in our lives who share our vision, support us, offer counsel, friendship and a willingness to roll up their sleeves and do the hard work. That's who Darrell Sandlin is to me. Darrell came to the foodbank under a work program in the last quarter of 1983. I would pick up him and a couple of others at the Hamilton Plaza where the bus dropped them every morning in my old beat up car and off we would go to the days challenges. Darrell had experience in warehousing and soon became an invaluable partner in daily operations from arranging shipping, taking and pulling orders, tracking inventory, doing anything I asked of him. I soon came to rely on his words of wisdom and finally had enough funding to hire him on April 1, 1984.

Darrell has the capacity to see situations from all sides, lending advice on how to tackle a certain problem or confronting uncomfortable circumstances. He has the ability to bring peace to chaos, which I believed he learned from his own chaotic life. Through the years, we became not only co-workers but developed a deep friendship experiencing each others lives, from births to deaths, raising families and the challenges that brings, consoling each other at times of loss.

Darrell was crucial as the foodbank grew and enthusiastically took on more responsibility as we evolved into one of the largest charitable responses to hunger in our area. I knew I could count on Darrell and trusted him and his judgment implicitly.

He was always faithful to our mission, reeling me in when I stepped too far, pushing me when I didn't move fast enough. He understood, from his own personal struggle, what it means to be poor and hungry and that gave him a connection to the people we serve and an insight into how to provide a compassionate environment for those who turned to our network during the worst times of their lives.

Much of what the foodbank is today is because of the years Darrell has given it his all, with an open heart and mind, a strong back and a good soul. When it comes to quiet heroes, Darrel ranks at the top of my list because of the hundreds of thousands of lives he touched with his unselfish dedication to making this little part of our world a better place.

I was so blessed to have this amazing adventure with Darrell by my side, his life of service should be an inspiration to us all. Enjoy your retirement, my friend, you deserve it!



Retired, Founding Executive Director



# Legacy Send Off



"I started out here back when it was still called workfare and I had to do 9 days a month, but even though I was looking for a job, I couldn't find one so I just kept coming here everyday"



**37.5**  
Years



**1,964**  
Weeks

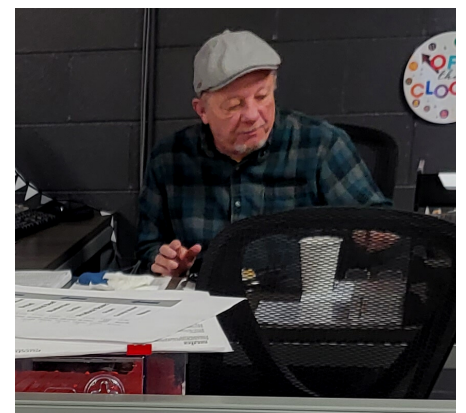
**451.5**  
Months

**8,710**  
Days Worked

**69,680** Hours Worked



"I will miss the people the most."



# Faces of Hunger



"Without pantries, I would be eating much lighter each month."

"I'm on social security and once I get done paying my rent and utilities, I run short on money to buy food."



"My work hours are not reliable, so sometimes, I have to visit a pantry, to make sure my kids and I can eat."

## ADVOCATE TO END HUNGER

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided funds at both the state and local level to help combat the negative economic impact from the global pandemic.

Shared Harvest has requested \$500,000 of these funds from the Butler County Commissioners primarily to provide capacity building for our partners to help them meet the continued increased need since the pandemic began.

Additionally, The Ohio Association of Foodbanks, have requested a one-time 183 million investment of state ARPA funds to ensure that all 12 Feeding America Foodbanks in Ohio are able to continue in our mission to rescue, store, and distribute during current and future food and economic crises.

## How you can help

Visit <https://www.sharedharvest.org/advocacy> to learn more about these requests and who to contact to advocate on behalf Shared Harvest Foodbank, our network of 100 plus partners, and the communities we serve.



# Giving

## FOOD DONORS

- 80 Acres
- Advance/Pierre Foods
- Bad Hombres Trucking
- Bakemark
- Global Foods
- HT Bar
- Interstate Warehousing
- Kraft/Mondelez
- Lanning's Foods Inc.
- McLane Global/Roland
- Mondelez International
- Ohio Association of Foodbanks
- Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services
- Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.
- Snyder/Lance
- Top Gear
- Tyson Foods

## FOOD DRIVES

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## RETAIL RESCUE

- Aldi
- Amazon
- Kroger
- Meijer
- Target
- Walmart

**DONATE NOW**



**\$1 provides 8 MEALS**

## **JOURNAL NEWS FOOD RELIEF 2021**

For the 18th year in a row, the Hamilton Journal News (Cox media) partnered with Shared Harvest Foodbank to raise money and awareness about food insecurity.

This is a 10 week campaign that starts in November and runs through the beginning of January.

We are extremely grateful to the continued support from our community.

This year, through generous donations, we are able to provide an additional 163,536 meals to neighbors in need in our 5 county service area.

Your support is greatly appreciated as we continue to combat food insecurity, making sure everyone has food on the table.





FOODBANK

5901 Dixie Highway  
Fairfield, Ohio 45014-4207  
www.sharedharvest.org  
513-881-9024

Oct-Dec 2021

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Cincinnati, OH  
Permit No. 770

## FOODBANK STAFF

Nathan Baker	PT Distribution Center Associate/Floater
Samantha Durko	Programs Coordinator
Peter Engelhard	Programs Coordinator
Amberlee Finkes	Supply Chain Manager
Greg Fish	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Victoria Harris	Administrative Assistant
Nikki Jennings	Partner Relationship Manager
Sandra McCauley	Finance Manager
Sarah Ormbrek	Marketing Specialist
Terry Perdue	Executive Director
K.R.	Production Associate
B. S.	Production Associate
W. S.	Production Associate
Mike Stamper	Driver/Distribution Center Associate
Scott Stapleton	Distribution Center Manager
Robert Zohfeld	Programs Manager

## OUR CORE VALUES



**RESPECT:** We respect the inherent worth and dignity of every person and strive to treat all with justice, equity, and compassion.



**STEWARSHIP:** We keep faith with the public trust through the efficient and responsible use of resources entrusted to us, delivering on commitments, and acting with honesty and openness.



**COMMUNITY:** We collaborate and build strong relationships, based on trust, with and among those who share our vision to end hunger.



**URGENCY:** We act quickly and adapt to change to meet the immediate needs of hungry people.



**SERVICE:** We strive to consider the needs of our community in order to deliver the best response to end hunger.

