

BANK NOTES

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Wow! 30 years! It is hard to believe that it has been 30 years since your Food Bank's founders began this mission by distributing food to those in need in our community from the trunks of cars in the parking lot of Victoria Baptist Church. What a difference from the trunks of cars then to our newly renovated 172,000 square-foot warehouse today. In spite of all of these positive changes with your help to fight the issue, the problem of hunger and food insecurity continues to grow in similar fashion in our area. Nothing that your Food Bank has accomplished over these 30 years would have been possible without the efforts and support of you, our advocates, donors and volunteers. Yes, we have made strides, but the issue of hunger and food insecurity in our area remains. As we celebrate our 30th anniversary this year, we reflect upon and thank the tremendous supporters that we have lost over the years, look forward to the success of our emerging supporters, and welcome the opportunity to work with new champions who will join us as we strive to fight hunger together.

We can only be successful with your continued support of your Food Bank. However, to truly have success, we also need more people to join you and to support your Food Bank in the fight. Please help us spread the word and encourage others to join you and your Food Bank as we continue to fulfill our mission of service to others – *Together We're Fighting Hunger.*

Sincerely,
Michael G. Manning
President & CEO

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CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

A LOOK BACK AT WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

This year, your Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank is celebrating thirty years of service to those in need. What started as a small distribution of collected food items in a church parking lot has now evolved into the distribution of millions of meals across eleven Louisiana parishes each year. The Food Bank continues to grow, but looks back fondly on its early beginnings.

The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank was originally organized as an outgrowth of Urban Ministries Coalition to provide support to people in need as they faced severe economic challenges. In 1984, the Baton Rouge economy was among the worst in the nation. Downtown churches and social relief agencies in Baton Rouge, all members of Urban Ministries Coalition, had noticed triple the amount of people coming to them for assistance. Together, they decided it was time to take action.



Around that same timeframe, Delchamps Food Stores had contacted United Way to discuss donating the food that the grocery stores were unable to sell. United Way contacted a small group of community leaders, effectively creating what would become the Steering Committee for the new Food Bank. This group included the Reverend John Lipscomb of St. James Episcopal Church; Jim Colvin of United Way; Fred Griggs of Saint Vincent dePaul; Pete Underwood of the American Red Cross; Nancy Penn, the Episcopal Hunger Coordinator; David Cheveallier of Volunteers of America; John Spain of WBRZ-TV; Isabel Austin of Judson Baptist Association; Deborah Roe of the Catholic Life Center; B.T. Lewis of The Salvation Army; and Tyke Olinde of University Presbyterian Church.

As a brand new organization trying to make an impact in the community, the first Food Bank distribution consisted of a small group of volunteers passing out collected bread and food items in the parking lot of Victoria Baptist Church. Eventually, the Food Bank moved into its own building – a small house located on 21st Street in Baton Rouge. As the strength and size of the Food Bank’s operation grew, it became clear that the facility would also need to grow. In 1996, the Food Bank moved to its third home and first warehouse facility on Chippewa Street. At this time, the Food Bank had grown from a few volunteers in a parking lot to 24 full-time employees focused on serving the Greater Baton Rouge community.

Many years after moving into the warehouse facility on Chippewa, the Food Bank expanded its operations again and moved to a larger warehouse on Choctaw. The Food Bank would call this warehouse home until January of 2014, nearly 30 years after the Food Bank’s first distribution. The Food Bank moved in 2014 to its current home, the Fraenkel Center – all made possible through a generous partial In-kind donation from Mr. Albert Fraenkel and his family, and also through the support of many generous donors. With a much larger operational space, the new facility has allowed for increases in efficiency as well as opportunities to transform hunger relief efforts and further the mission.

“Over the last three decades, the Food Bank has seen a great deal of growth and development in food donations, fund donations and volunteerism. Without the support of the community, this level of growth would not be possible. Community support has been a constant since day one, and that has allowed us to help thousands of people in our community over the last thirty years,” said Mike Manning, President & CEO of the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank.

Thirty years ago, a group of community leaders saw a need in their city and did something about it. Today, the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank provides on average approximately 9 million meals a year to those in need across an 11-parish service area. Location, size and service area may have changed, but one thing is constant: the Food Bank’s mission. ***Together We’re Fighting Hunger.***



COMPANIES STEP UP TO SUPPORT CRITICAL PROGRAMS & SUMMER NEEDS

BASF DONATES \$25,000 TO BACKPACK PROGRAM

PROGRAM TO DIRECTLY SUPPORT CHILDREN IN ASCENSION PARISH



In recognition of BASF's 150th anniversary, the company's Geismar site recently donated \$25,000 to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank to bring the Backpack child nutrition program to Ascension Parish. This donation will provide backpacks filled with nutritious food for 100 low-income students in the upcoming 2015-16 school year in Ascension Parish.

"We're celebrating our 150th anniversary by supporting critical needs in the community, which is a year-round commitment for BASF," said Tom Yura, Senior Vice President and Manager of the BASF site in Geismar, La. "We appreciate the opportunity to work with our nonprofit partners to fight poverty and childhood hunger in Ascension Parish."

The Backpack program helps feed low-income children on weekends and holidays when students are not in school and, consequently, do not have access to free/reduced breakfast and lunch.

"We are excited to have BASF join us to expand the Backpack program to children in need in Ascension Parish," said Mike Manning, President and CEO of the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. "In addition to providing the funding needed for this vital program, BASF employee volunteers will pack and distribute the backpacks to these children, demonstrating BASF's strong commitment to the community."

TOGETHER WE'RE FIGHTING HUNGER



70,968 Number of meals provided by ExxonMobil employees through their Redstock summer food drive.



\$4,500 Donation from the Sparkhound Foundation – an end result of the Sparkhound Invitational Golf Tournament held at The Bluffs in St. Francisville to benefit the Food Bank.



94,000 Pounds of food collected from Stamp Out Hunger 2015 - the largest amount of food collected in the last 10 years for this drive.



34,323 Number of meals provided by Turner Industries and their employee food drive to help stock the shelves for the summer.

CANSTRUCTION® TO UNVEIL NEW CANWARS THEME AUGUST 28TH

LASM, AIABR and the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank are excited to present CANstruction® once again at the end of August. Downtown Baton Rouge will be home to the 5th annual AIA Baton Rouge CANstruction® event. However, 2015 brings with it a few important firsts. This year, and for the first time ever, CANstruction® will be hosting ten teams across three venues including Shaw Center for the Arts, LASM, and the Old State Capitol.

This growth happens alongside the announcement of a much-anticipated competition theme. CANstruction® 2015 will be known as CANWARS, featuring structures inspired by the Star Wars trilogy. Each structure will be built completely out of canned/nonperishable food items. At the conclusion of the event, all building materials are donated to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank.

Over the last five years, AIA Baton Rouge CANstruction® has contributed more than 67,600 pounds of food to the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. This poundage provides the equivalent of approximately 56,000 meals for those in need within the Food Bank's 11 parish service area.

Structures will be constructed during a twelve-hour build out session on August 26. Structures at all three locations will be open for public viewing beginning on August 28 and ending on September 18, and you can be a part of the celebration with a special "CANTina Walk" open to the public taking place Tuesday, September 15th from 6-8PM. Kids in Star Wars costumes get in FREE! Details are available at www.aiabr.com.

WBRZ FEED A FAMILY CAMPAIGN TO RUN OCTOBER 1ST – 30TH

The fall season brings with it many things: cooler weather, football season, fall cookouts, and WBRZ's Feed A Family campaign! For the entire month of October, the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank is partnering once again with WBRZ to host the 31st annual Feed A Family food drive.



Feed A Family provides the community with a great opportunity to give back to less-fortunate families as they prepare for the cold weather that follows October. To participate, you can host a food or funds drive to collect vital food and fund donations for the Feed A Family campaign. Donation barrels are accessible throughout the Baton Rouge area, so you can also donate food in these barrels as well.

Also, stay tuned to our website at brfoodbank.org for more details on Feed A Family Friday, a one-day food drive to donate nonperishable and perishable items. Also, as in years past, Pierre Pig and Thibodeaux Turkey will also be available for a donation of \$25.00. This donation will purchase a ham or turkey for a family in need. Anyone who adopts Pierre or Thibodeaux has the option of keeping the beanie or sending the beanie to a child in need.

**COMING
OCTOBER 31**

10/31 Consortium
presents their
Annual
Baton Rouge
Halloween Parade

•
2PM
DOWNTOWN

3RD ANNUAL TREVOR'S WISH DRIVE TO KICK OFF HUNGER ACTION MONTH IN SEPTEMBER

WE REMEMBER AND HONOR HIS WISH IN 2015 - #TREVORSWISH

WE REMEMBER AND HONOR
TREVOR'S WISH
to feed the hungry

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

everyone
can do something

2015
#TREVORSWISH

COMMUNITY WIDE FOOD & FUND DRIVE SEPTEMBER 1-30

▶ BACKGROUND & MISSION

Trevor Sims was first diagnosed with cancer when he was five years old. At age 10, Trevor and his family were informed that his cancer was terminal. Understanding he would have limited time, Trevor made a wish that he shared with the Baton Rouge community - to feed the hungry. Trevor's Wish inspired an entire community to take action. Over the last two years, Trevor's Wish has collected over 53,000 pounds of food and over \$110,000 in monetary donations - providing over 594,166 meals to those in need - all because one young boy had a wish. On October 16, 2013, the Baton Rouge community lost a true hero in Trevor Sims, but his legacy continues to live on and inspire us all. This year once again, we honor his wish and call everyone to action as part of Hunger Action Month.

▶ HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

There are three easy ways to take action and participate in Trevor's Wish. You can donate food items at any Baton Rouge area Raising Cane's location. You can also collect food and donate those items at participating CC's Coffee House locations. Thirdly, you can donate funds on-line through the Food Bank website at brfoodbank.org or by calling us at (225) 359-9940. Trevor's Wish runs from September 1-30 - so it's time to take action. Trevor used to say, "everyone can do something". Consider hosting a food drive or fund-raiser with your friends, co-workers, sports team or church groups. You get a chance to be creative in how you do it and at the same time you help keep Trevor's Wish alive.

▶ HOW YOUR EFFORTS WILL HELP THOSE IN NEED

All food and funds collected from Trevor's Wish will directly fight hunger through your Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. We distribute food to over 130 agencies across 11 parishes to meet the needs of those who are food insecure. Through your donations, we are able to collect, package, and purchase food to support these efforts. Donating just a dollar can provide food for 5 meals, so every little bit helps.



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 Baton Rouge, LA 70895-4830



United Way Member Agency



Member of Feeding America

In an effort to go green and reduce costs, the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank encourages you to sign up for our e-newsletter and newflashes. Visit www.brfoodbank.org to sign up and start receiving news in your inbox.

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS MAY 2015-AUGUST 2015

St. Michael the Archangel High School
 St. Joseph's Academy High School
 Catholic High School
 Episcopal High School
 University Laboratory High School
 Baton Rouge Magnet High School
 Parkview Baptist School
 Tara High School
 Louisiana State University
 Southeastern Louisiana University
 Youth Challenge
 Youth Volunteer Corps
 Junior League of Baton Rouge
 First Friday Mailers
 TEAM Turner
 Shiloh Youth Ministries
 ExxonMobil
 Humana
 The Red Shoes

Express Professionals
 Women of Divine Royalty Social Club
 Forum 35
 Teach for America
 KIDS Camp
 Target
 Greater New Guide Baptist Church
 Farm Bureau
 Rotaract
 Brown & Brown of Baton Rouge
 Broadmoor Baptist Church
 Telecom Pioneers
 National Association of Professional Women
 Palmer, Bernard & Associates
 Home Instead Senior Care
 Vivint
 Provisions Independent Living Skills
 Istrouma Baptist Church
 Garrett A. Morgan Summer Business Institute

South Baton Rouge Church of Christ
 Blue Bell Creameries
 Horne, LLP
 Woman's Hospital
 Desk and Derrick Club of Baton Rouge
 St. Frances Youth Group
 AmeriCorps
 Parks and Recreation of Denham Springs
 ExxonMobil ExC!TE
 Adopt-A-Senior Packers



TEAM Turner employees unload an 18-wheeler full of collected food as part of their donation to restock the shelves for the critical summer time

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