



# Bread & Broth

## Volunteer Newsletter

### A Note from our Director.....

Dear Fellow Bread & Broth Volunteers,

Over the past four months, we at St. Theresa Bread & Broth, have undergone great challenges in our organization and we look and feel very different these days. In just a short period of time we have moved from providing hot, sit down meals twice weekly and weekend bags of food to students attending classes at school to handing out bags of food at Grace Hall and at school food distribution bus stops and four school locations on Fridays.

Despite the challenges of the need to increase donations, find food purchasing sources, and recruit many new volunteers, Bread & Broth has succeeded in continuing to serve the food insecure members of our community during this health crisis. As the director, I could not be more proud of those I serve with for their willingness to innovate, cooperate and collaborate. I am also very thankful for the response of our community members who have helped us continue our mission of easing hunger.

We still have a long way to before the pandemic's influence allows us to return to normal. Over time, we will be looking at options to modify our services to meet the changing guidelines and needs created by the ongoing health concerns and the re-opening of our community's businesses, schools, and tourist attractions. Already, the Kids' program on July 1<sup>st</sup> transitioned to the Summer Program format of providing food at Grace Hall's foyers for children up to the age 18 and delivering bags to eligible child care centers on Wednesdays through August 26<sup>th</sup>. Then, depending on the direction taken by the LTUSD, new options will need to be investigated on how to continue feeding food insecure children in the Fall.

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### Feeding Those in Need During the COVID-19 Pandemic...



Bread & Broth has seen many changes over the past 16 weeks, but the commitment to providing food for those in need has remained steady. Here's what the generosity of volunteers and community members has provided during these past four months:

**Monday and Friday Food Bag Giveaways** Clients receive up to 5 bags of food

- 1) Staples- meat, canned fruit & veggies, nutrition bars, chips, etc.
- 2) Breads/pastries
- 3) Eggs, milk and butter
- 4) Fresh fruits and vegetables
- 5) Miscellaneous- pizza, yogurt, sandwiches, salads, etc.

Total number of clients (3/16-6/30) 3,710 (an average of 247 sets of bags per week)

#### **Bread & Broth 4 Kids Weekend Food Bag Giveaways**

-Bags filled with single-serving, kid friendly, nutritious food (peanut butter, oatmeal packs, nutrition bars, soup, spaghetti, etc) delivered to school bus stops and school locations

Total number of bags delivered (3/16-6/30) 6,086  
(an average of 406 bags per week)

#### **Volunteers**

Number of volunteers who served at least once (3/16-6/30) 178

#### **Donations/Expenditures for COVID-19 Emergency Efforts**

-Total Donations as of 6/30 \$117,337 (192 donors)  
-Total Expenditures as of 6/30 \$73,463  
-Average expenditures per week \$4,898

## A Note from our Director... (continued).....

Recently, as more community members have been re-employed, the number of folks coming for food on Mondays and Fridays has been decreasing. However, since the number of COVID-19 cases has begun to rise in our community, the number of folks needing supplemental food could once again increase. We are functioning in a very fluid environment, but as always, the safety of our volunteers is our first concern in establishing new procedures and maintaining our services.

Our mission now is more important than ever as individuals and families struggle to catch up with rent and mortgage payments, delayed medical procedures, and late utility payments. We keep them and each of you, in our thoughts.

Be well and stay well.  
Carol Gerard  
Director, Bread & Broth



Many of the volunteers who have supported Bread & Broth activities over the past few months are now returning to work. We are now looking for individuals who might be interested in our B&B packing on Monday and Friday afternoons and the B&B 4 Kids program on Wednesdays mornings.

If you or anyone you know might be interested, please contact:

**Monday and Friday packings:**  
Beth Wallace [bethwall53@gmail.com](mailto:bethwall53@gmail.com)

**Wednesdays: B&B 4 Kids**  
Myee Costanzo [mavecilla24@gmail.com](mailto:mavecilla24@gmail.com)

## Bread & Broth 4 Kids Summer Program

The B&B 4 Kids Summer Program began Wednesday, July 1st at Grace Hall. Over the past two weeks, an average of 45 children have been on hand to pick up bags filled with child friendly, nutritious foods as well as some fresh fruit.

In addition, over 120 bags have been delivered to eight local child care centers- AppleSeeds, Boys and Girls Club, Child Development Center, Live Violence Free, Step by Step, Under the Magic Pine Tree, Choices for Children- and the Filipino Community.

The program looks different from the program in years past. Last summer, children were able to walk through the child-friendly "pantry" and pick out foods for the week. This year, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, bags are picked up from a table in the foyer of Grace Hall. Safety procedures are followed to ensure the health and safety of both the volunteers and the children.



Children ages 0-18 can participate in the free food pack program. Bags can be picked up by children or adults accompanied by their children between 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. each Wednesday through August 26th.



