

## THE DELIVERY June 2018



**In May,**  
 We received: 130,000 lbs. of product  
 We served:    4,225 Families  
                   392 Seniors  
                   814 Adults  
                   3,649 Youth  
                   4,795 Children  
                   1654 Volunteer Hours  
                   19 Salvations /  
                   Recommitments

### Signs of Summer

While most of us are still asking the weekly question of “is it Friday yet?”, students, teachers, and many more of us are asking the bigger question—*Is it Summer yet?* Thankfully, for those of us who need to catch a breath in the busyness of life, we can finally say...yes!

While Florida has a general feel and look that remains similar all year-round, here at the warehouse, things just seem to yell Summer! The buffalo in the field across from us lightly graze under the shade of the trees while the gentle blow of the wind seems to carry the heat of the sun. And as far as operations go, Summer is traditionally a slower time of year for us, allowing us to regroup, re-strategize, and further our planning for the Fall.

For non-profits, for-profits, and individuals alike, these months of summer offer many of us a valuable window of opportunity to do those things that the rest of the year just doesn't seem to permit. Summer, with its often relaxed schedule, not only offer seasonal promotions from our favorite companies, but also internship and volunteering opportunities for otherwise busy individuals, and unique fundraising events for non-profits.

Because Summer seems to offer itself as a time of year where we can more liberally and freely partake in these sorts of activities, we at Southeastern Food Bank hope to encourage everyone to scout out the advantages of what's offered to each of us at this time of year in our community. Hopefully, these things, in conjunction with ample downtime will promote both a restful *and* active Summer for all of us!

But beyond what lies in wait for us in the public realm this Summer are the more subtle opportunities that we all too frequently overlook, this being our interpersonal relationships. This Summer, while most of us are eased with a slower pace of life, lets have our eyes open and ears attentive to who's around us.

Each of us, regardless of where we live have neighbors, family and friends. Regardless of where we drive, we see fellow drivers, pedestrians, and the homeless. Each of these people, like ourselves, have unseen, unmet, needs. What will *you* do to help foster hope in someone's life?

It was upon our return from a previous Seniors Outreach that, as we hauled our trailer full of assorted food, we came across a homeless gentleman at a Eustis intersection. While we were exhausted and ready for a much anticipated lunch, Mark, being attentive to the man's needs, proceeded to pull over so we could walk a box of food over to him.

It was at that moment that we recalled how frequently in life we overlook a person in need on account of not being sensitive to our surroundings, even as we “carry hope”. This is especially true of all of us who are Christians.

*“What will you do to help foster hope in someone's life?”*

As Jesus himself said “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be

hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven (Matt. 5:13-16). Both this Summer as well as all year long, lets be a light to our neighbors!

## Calling all animal lovers!

It's not tuna... it's not salmon... it's... it's...  
 Cat food?? Beginning earlier this year, Southeastern Food Bank began receiving animal product by the pallet from a Groveland animal shelter named "The Animal League". Through their generosity and a number of other smaller donors, as of April, we have been able to distribute 14 pallets of various pet food, bedding, and other animal hygiene product across Central Florida (as far north as St. Augustine)! We encourage anyone with excess pet product to donate that it might be circulated to needy animal shelters!



**Thank you...** To the United States Postal Service for their continued support of healthy communities nationwide with their Stamp Out Hunger Initiative last month! Between the Windermere, Winter Garden, Ocoee and Gotha post offices, Southeastern Food Bank received just under 15,000 pounds of food for distribution to our community. And, of course, thank you to our wonderful West-Orange homeowners for their provision for disadvantaged individuals in Central Florida.

Thank you also to the West Orange Junior Service League for their donation toward our Food for Families Program! Additionally, we are very grateful for the City of Ocoee's funding toward our overhead of truck fuel expenses.

## CALENDAR

Father's Day



Sunday, June 17

Happy Father's Day to all of our fabulous fathers out there! Thank you for all you do!

Independence Day



Wednesday, July 4

"Freedom has a high cost: lives given, the ultimate loss. That cost they willingly give, so freedom can continue to live."

-Dr. Bill McDonald

Happy Independence Day, America!

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