



MISSISSIPPI
FOOD NETWORK

member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Mississippi Food Network, we are pleased to provide you with our 2016-17 Annual Report. Working with our member agencies, volunteers, community organizations, Feeding America, and hundreds of generous people and businesses, we are making a difference in the lives of our fellow Mississippians. We hope this report will help show you the extent of our efforts to serve the hungry and those who are food insecure, as well as to accomplish our vision to eliminate poverty-related hunger in our service area through our programs and the dedicated efforts of the people who work at Mississippi Food Network.

The scope of this task is massive, and it grows each year. Statistics continue to show that Mississippi has the worst hunger problem of all the states in the Union. Of our 379,814 seniors, 100,000 (26.3%) do not always have enough food to eat. Of the 767,742 children living here, 265,693 (34.7%) are in poverty, and 220,341 (28.7%) face food insecurity (do not know from where their next meal may be coming).

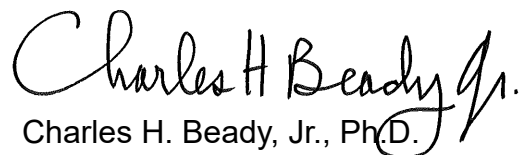
Mississippi Food Network and our member agencies are dedicated to providing effective and far-reaching assistance to needy families. The Board of Directors and our staff are dedicated to a proactive approach, and we continue to look for innovative ways to provide better service. We are proud that our annual, independent financial audits continue to show no deficiencies in internal control over compliance or any material weaknesses. Additionally, those audits, including this year's audit, continue to show that over 95% of our funds go toward the operation of our programs. This is also supported by the Secretary of State's 2017 Report on Charitable Organizations in Mississippi (for fiscal year 2016), which indicates that 95.37% of our funds go back to our programs.

We are always mindful of our mission to relieve poverty-related hunger in our service area, providing nutrition education and emphasizing advocacy. As you look over this Annual Report, remember that our friends and donors play a critical role in enabling this organization to provide so much support to so many. Our mission can only be accomplished through the generosity of others, and for all of those who contribute to the work we do, we are very grateful.

Sincerely,



Aaron Akers
Chairman of the Board
2016-2017



Charles H. Beady, Jr., Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer



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Chief Executive Officer

Charles H. Beady, Jr.

REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions of money	\$ 1,131,337
Contributions of food	19,499,671
Grants and government revenues	3,111,383
Shared maintenance fees	296,536
Food purchase revenues	45,547
Interest and other income	46,084
TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	<u>24,130,558</u>

EXPENSES

Food distribution	21,478,004
Management and general	422,535
Fund-raising	596,696
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>22,497,235</u>

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS

1,633,323

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR

5,677,288

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR**\$ 7,310,611****ASSETS**

Cash	\$ 2,384,793
Accounts receivable	31,946
Grants and pledges receivable	1,018,191
Board designated interest bearing funds held for:	
Investments	882,797
Food inventory	2,128,613
Prepaid expenses	46,254
Property, buildings and equipment, net	1,040,178
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 7,532,772</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**LIABILITIES**

Accounts payable	\$ 152,588
Accrued expenses	40,548
Deferred revenue	29,025
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>222,161</u>

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted:	
Board designated for emergency operations reserve	1,204,616
Undesignated	2,046,080
Total unrestricted	3,250,696
Temporarily restricted	4,059,915
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>7,310,611</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 7,532,772</u>

Annual Audit: Our financial statements are audited annually by BKD, LLP. The audit for the year ended June 30, 2017, resulted in an unmodified opinion on the financial statements. For a complete copy of Mississippi Food Network's audited financial statements with accompanying notes, please contact our business office.

Mission: To relieve poverty-related hunger in our service area by distributing donated and purchased food and grocery products through a network of member churches and nonprofit organizations. We provide nutrition education to our needy clients. We also emphasize advocacy and related needs.

Vision: To eliminate poverty-related hunger in our service area.

Statement of Values:

In carrying out our mission, the work of Mississippi Food Network revolves around a core set of values that provide the framework within which we declare commitments, operating principles and accountability.

Respect: We respect the inherent worth and dignity of every person and treat all with justice, equity and compassion.

Stewardship and Accountability: We keep faith with the public trust through the efficient, effective and compassionate use of resources entrusted to us and are mindful that our mission is accomplished through the generosity of others. We maintain and communicate accurate and timely information. We evaluate and account regularly for how resources are used to implement and achieve our mission.

Collaboration: We believe in the power of mutual effort. We collaborate and build strong relationships with our agencies and the public. These are based on trust, with and among those who share our vision.

Urgency: We operate in an acute sense of urgency that reflects the immediate needs of those living in poverty. We challenge our employees, volunteers and agencies to embrace the same urgency to accomplish our shared vision.

Service: We believe service is fundamental. We strive to serve with excellence, fairness, compassion and responsiveness to meet the needs of those with whom we work.

Integrity: We will act with honesty, trust and openness and deliver on commitments. We act within the spirit of agreements, contracts and the law. Our intentions and actions will be transparent and above reproach.

2016 Hunger's Hero

MFN's relationship began with our Hunger's Hero recipient in 2010 when Marcella Davis made a donation to MFN through a direct mail appeal. She called us in 2012 to share with us that she was then serving as the Chairperson of the Missions Committee at her church, Greater Bethlehem Temple, and that they wanted to make a donation to help with our mission.

Since that time, they have made four generous donations to our organization totaling over \$51K from funds collected from their congregation. We are very pleased to recognize Greater Bethlehem Temple Church as our 2016 Hunger's Hero and appreciate their commitment to the work of MFN.

pictured: Maggie Stevenson, Missions Chairperson



2016 Spirit of Service

Kristy Partrick teaches AP U.S. History at Madison Central High School and is one of the sponsors for the Student Government Association (SGA). In her role as an SGA sponsor, she is responsible for the annual *Food for Families* food drive at Madison Central. While the food drive is only one week out of the year, Kristy spends many hours planning each year to make it a successful event. Motivating students to bring canned food items, counting and keeping up with the totals, and loading trailers with 130,000 canned food items is a major task.

But, not only does she do all of this, she also helps the students understand the impact they are making and how they are helping other Mississippians. Each year Madison Central does a great job, but that comes with the fact they have Kristy making a difference and leading the way. Because this is her last year to be our liaison, we could think of no one else who deserved the 2016 Spirit of Service Award more than Kristy. And, she has promised to "train" her replacement! Thank you Kristy for all you have done for Mississippi Food Network in our fight against hunger.

pictured: Kristy Partrick (l) and daughter, Morgan Partrick



2016 Volunteers of the Year

The Young CPA Network of the Mississippi Society of CPA's has partnered with Mississippi Food Network for many years through various service projects by hosting food drives and volunteering their time.

They began partnering with us in 2015 for their day of service. For the last two years in the Jackson area, they have helped us tremendously by volunteering at our Annual UPS-iHeartMedia food drive.

And, not only did they volunteer locally, but they also had volunteer groups at some of our partner agencies - Edwards Street in Hattiesburg, Natchez Stewpot Soup Kitchen, Love's Kitchen in Meridian, and The Oxford Food Pantry in Oxford. We appreciate this partnership and want to recognize them as our 2016 Volunteers of the Year.

pictured: Lydia Windham (l) Young CPA Network board member; and Kimberly Williams, president



Mississippi Food Network distributes all its food through member agencies. Those agencies are either churches or 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, which must qualify through our application process. Once approved as an agency, they select recipients within their communities, based on need and in accordance with qualifying guidelines. There is never a cost assessed to the individual and/or family for food obtained through Mississippi Food Network. Currently we have some 430 member agencies that distribute food through food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, day care centers, senior citizen programs, and afterschool programs. We serve more than 150,000 people each month through these member agencies.

100 Black Men of Jackson	Calvary Chapel Baptist Church	CSFP First Hyde M.B. Church	Durant M.B. Church Food Pantry
A.M.E.N. Food Pantry	Care Lodge Domestic Violence Shelter	CSFP Greater Fairview M.B. Church	E.E.Rogers SDA Christian School
Aberdeen Loaves & Fishes	Caring Hands of Sweet Home	CSFP Golden Key Senior Housing	Ebenezer Apostolic Ministries
AIDS Service Coalition	Cary Christian Center	CSFP Golden Triangle Png Dev.	Edwards Street Fellowship Center
Alta Woods U.M.C.	Center and Mars Hill	CSFP Heavenly Manna	Emmanuel Church of God
Amite River Baptist Assn.	Center for Family Life Ext.	CSFP Helping Hands Humphreys	Emmanuel M.B.Church
Amory Food Pantry	Center Hill Baptist Church	CSFP Helping Hands - Cleveland	Ephesus Baptist Church
Anderson United Methodist Church	Center Ridge Baptist Church	CSFP Highland View Senior Apts.	Eternity Prep. Ministries
Anguila United Methodist Church	Central C.M.E. Church	CSFP Inverness	Evangelical Crusade for Christ
Apostolic Faith Tabernacle	Central MS Food Pantry	CSFP Jackson Revival	Ever Reaching Community Outreach
Back Pack - Brown Elem.School	Central United Methodist Church	CSFP Jackson Run Senior Apts.	Faith Assembly Daycare Center
Back Pack - East Flora Elem.	Charity Full Gospel	CSFP Lefleur Haven Senior Apts.	Faith Baptist Church
Back Pack - Henderson Elem. Sc	Christian Fellowship Church	CSFP Lucedale C.O.G.I.C.	Faith Food Pantry
Back Pack- Hinds Co. School District	Christian Fellowship Church	CSFP Madonna Manor Senior Apts.	Faith Haven, Inc.
Bass Memorial Seventh Day Adventist	Christian Fellowship Outreach	CSFP Mallory Community Health Center	Feed by Faith
Belmont U.M.C. Food Pantry	Christian Food Mission	CSFP MCCA - Clarke County	Feeding Hearts
Berean 7th Day Adventist	Christian Liberty M.B. Church	CSFP MCCA - Jasper County	First Assembly Food Pantry
Bethel A.M.E. Church	Christian Services, Inc.	CSFP MCCA - Kemper County	First Assembly of God
Bethesda United Methodist Church	Christians In Action	CSFP MCCA - Wayne County	First Assembly Of God Care Center
Bethlehem Baptist Ch/Food/Pan.	Christians United M.B. Church	CSFP Miles Memorial C.M.E. Church	First Baptist Church of Coldwater
Bethlehem M.B. Church	Chunky U.M.C. Food Pantry	CSFP Midtown Partners	First Baptist Church of Flora
BGC - Covington County	Churches United Food Bank/Pontotoc	CSFP Moorehead Area	First Baptist Church of Taylorsville
Bible Barn, Inc.	Clarke County Assoc. For Needy	CSFP Multi-County CSA	First Church of Deliverance
Bibleway Church Food Pantry	CMPS - Grove	CSFP NCBA Estates	First Hyde M.B. Church
BP- Armstrong Middle	College Hill Baptist Food Pantry	CSFP New Morning Star Church	First U.M.C. of Magee
BP - Barr Elementary	Columbus Church of Christ	CSFP New White Stone M. B.	First United Methodist Church
BP - Boyd E.S./Crossroads	Compassion Food Ministries	CSFP Oakland (YCAA)	Free Mission Baptist Church
BP - Canton Elementary	Copiah County Human Resources	CSFP Pinelake Care Center	Friends of the Environment
BP - Cook Elementary	Cornerstone Church	CSFP Piney Grove Church	Fulton United Methodist Church
BP - Covington Co.	Cornerstone Church Food Pantry	CSFP Planting Seeds Ministry	Gateway Rescue Mission
BP - Franklin Academy	Country Woods Baptist Church	CSFP Pleasant Ridge UMC	Good Samaritan Center
BP - George Elementary	Covenant Presbyterian Church	CSFP Power House of Deliverance	Good Samaritan Center, Inc.
BP - Highland Elementary	Crossgates Baptist Church	CSFP Revels United Methodist Church	Good Samaritan Soup Kitchen
BP - Kosciusko Middle Elementary	Crudup-Ward Center	CSFP PRVO - Covington County	Grace Episcopal Church
BP - Lamar County Schools	CSFP Abundant Life Faith	CSFP PRVO, Inc. - Jeff Davis	Grace House, Inc.
BP - Morton Schools	CSFP AJFC Community Action Agency	CSFP Ruleville Area	Greater Beaver Meadow Bapt. Church
BP - Operation Upward	CSFP Alex Waites Senior Apartments	CSFP Shiloh SDA Comm. Serv.	Greater Hope Foundation
BP - Overstreet Alternative	CSFP Anderson United Methodist Church	CSFP SMO, Inc. - Amite County	Greater Mt. Calvary
BP - Pearman Elementary	CSFP Azalea Christian Manor	CSFP SMO, Inc. - Wilkinson County	Greater New Jerusalem
BP - Riverside Elementary	CSFP Berean SDA	CSFP St. James C.O.G.I.C.	Greenwood Interfaith Ministries
BP - South Delta Elementary	CSFP Bonanza Buying Center	CSFP Sunflower Area	Grenada Food Pantry
BP - South Rankin/McLaurin	CSFP Buford Yerger/Senior Housing	CSFP Sunflower County	Golden Triangle Planning & Dev.
BP - SR/ Richland Elementary	CSFP Center Ridge Baptist Church	CSFP Town of Gunnison	Happiness Hills Christian Home
BP - Sudduth Elementary	CSFP Central United Methodist Church	CSFP We Care Community Services	Harmony M.B. Church
BP - Threadgill Elementary	CSFP Copiah County Human Resources	CSFP Wesley Youth Fdn.	Haven House Family Shelter
BP - Ward Stewart Elementary	CSFP Crossgates Baptist Church	CSFP Word Of Truth World Center	Healing Place
BP - West Elementary	CSFP Deliver Me	CSFP Windsong Senior Apartments	Heartland Hands
BP - Woodley/Parkway	CSFP Doddsville Area	CSFP Yalobusha County Action Agency	Hearts & Hands Food Pantry
BP - Yazoo Schools	CSFP Downtown Jackson CDC	Deliver Me Senior Support Services	Hearty Helpings Food Pantry
Brookhaven Outreach Ministries	CSFP Drew Area	Doers of the Word Outreach	Heavenly Manna Ministries
Buried Treasures Food Pantry	CSFP Durant M.B. Church	Downtown Jackson Community Dev.	Helping Hands Ministries
Calhoun Baptist Association	CSP Emmanuel M.B.Church	Dream Kids-Operation Upward	Helping Hands Ministry

Helping Hands of Cleveland
 Helping Hands of Humphreys County
 Hickory Baptist Church Food Pantry
 Higher Dimensions of Mt. Olive
 Hope Christian Home & Academy
 Hope Village for Children
 House of Blessings Food Pantry
 House Of Hope Min/Outreach
 Interfaith Food Pantry
 Itawamba U.M.C. Food Pantry
 Jackson Manor Senior Living
 Jackson Revival Center Church
 Jackson Street M.B. Church
 Jasper County Baptist Assoc.
 Jefferson Comprehensive Health Center
 Jericho Baptist Church
 Jerusalem Baptist Church
 Jerusalem Temple C.O.G.I.C.
 Jones Chapel M.B. Church
 Jordan Rivers
 Joseph's Food Pantry
 Jubilee Mennonite Church
 Kids Cafe - Afternoon Adventure
 Kids Cafe - Boys&Girls Club/Greenwood
 Kids Cafe - Boys&Girls Club/Grenada
 Kids Cafe - Boys&Girls Club/Lexington
 Kids Cafe - Boys&Girls Club/MVSU
 Kids Cafe - Boys&Girls Club/Yazoo
 Kids Cafe - Boys&Girls Club/Washington Co.
 Kids Cafe - Cary Christian Center
 Kids Cafe - Community Learning Center
 Kids Cafe - D.M. Smith Middle School
 Kids Cafe - E. Laurel Church of Christ
 Kids Cafe - Frank Phillips YMCA
 Kids Cafe - Genesis & Light Center
 Kids Cafe - Jeff Davis Outreach Ministries
 Kids Cafe - Operation Reach
 Kids Cafe - Overlook Apartments
 Kids Cafe - Margaret Green Junior High
 Kemper Springs Comm. Center
 Keplere' Serenity Dev. Center
 Kids Cafe - OMYD Hattiesburg
 Lake Elementary School
 Lauderdale Baptist Crisis Center
 Leland Food Pantry
 Lighthouse Manna Food Pantry
 Lintonia Chapel 7th Day Adventist
 Living Manna Food Pantry
 Love's Incorporated (Kitchen)
 Loving Kindness Outreach
 M.E.G.A.
 M.I.C.A. McComb In-dom Care
 MADCAPP Food Pantry
 Madison County CSA
 Magee's Creek M.B. Church
 Magnolia Terrace Apartments
 Mallory Comm. Health/ Leflore
 Manna Food Pantry
 Manna House

Maranatha Fellowship Church
 Marion County Food Pantry
 Masjid Muhammad
 Matt's House
 McHenry First Baptist Church
 McLaurin Heights United Methodist
 Mid-State Opportunity, Inc.
 Mission Hope
 Mission Okolona
 Morrison Heights Baptist Church
 Mothers Love Daycare
 Mount Charity M.B. Church
 Mount Elam M. B. Church
 MS Ctr./ Police & Sheriffs (Hope Home)
 MS Delta Council
 Mt. Carmel M.B. Church
 Mt. Zion Food Ministry
 Mt. Zion Food Pantry
 Multi-County CSA - Neshoba County
 Multi-County CSA Food Pantry
 Mustard Tree Missions
 My Brother's Keeper
 My Father's House Of Freedom
 Natchez Community Stewpot
 New Covenant Community Food Pantry
 New Dimensions Dev. Fdn.
 New Way Mississippi
 Noah's Ark Christian Center
 North Pleasant Hill Food Pantry
 Noxubee Co. Human Resource Agency
 Oak Grove M.B. Church
 Odessa Grant Food Pantry
 One Way International Ministry
 Operation Upward Food Pantry
 Orange Hill M.B. Church
 Oxford Food Pantry
 P.B.M. Ministries, Inc.
 Parkview Church of Christ
 Parkway Pentecostal Church
 Paul Truitt Memorial Baptist
 Pearl Street Comm. Dev. Corp.
 Pentecostal Church of God
 Petal Children's Task Force
 Peter's Rock C.O.G.I.C.
 Pilgrim Baptist Church
 Pine Grove Baptist Church
 Pine Lake Care Center - Clinton
 Pine Lake Care Center - Starkville
 Pinecrest SnackPacks - Pantry
 Pinelake Care Center
 Planting Seeds Ministry
 Pleasant Grove U.M.C.
 Pleasant Home Baptist Church
 Positive Living, Inc. - Utopia
 Potters House Family Service Center
 Project Homestead
 Providence M.B. Church
 PRVO - Forrest County
 PRVO - Jefferson Davis County

PRVO - Jones County
 PRVO - Lamar County
 PRVO - Marion County
 PRVO - Perry County
 Purvis Church of God
 Quitman County Food Pantry
 River City Mission Food Pantry
 River City Mission Soup Kitchen
 River Of Life Fellowship
 Rose Hill M B Church
 Rose Hill M.B.Church Food Pantry
 Rose Hill M.B.C. Soup Kitchen
 S.A.F.E., Inc.
 Sacred Heart Family Center
 Sacred Heart F.C. Soup Kitchen
 Sacred Heart Southern Mission
 Safe Haven, Inc.
 Salvation Army - Greenville
 Salvation Army - Jackson
 Salvation Army - Vicksburg
 Salvation Army- Columbus
 Salvation Army FP- Hattiesburg
 Sam Quinn C.O.G.I.C.
 Samaritan's Closet Food Pantry
 Samaritans, Inc.
 Scott County Baptist Assoc. Crisis
 Seminary Baptist Church
 SFSP - CTC Summer Camp
 SFSP - Farris Municipal Park
 SFSP - H.M. Nailor Elementary
 SFSP - His Harvest Ministries
 SFSP - Kingdom Vision I.C.
 SFSP - M.E.G.A.
 SFSP - MS Cultural Crossroads
 SFSP - New Hope YMCA
 SFSP - Operation Shoestring
 SFSP - Payton Garden Apts.
 SFSP - Pilgrim Rest M.B. Church
 SFSP - Quitman F.U.M.C.
 SFSP - Ridgewood Estates
 SFSP - Walton Elementary
 SFSP - We Care Comm. Services
 SFSP - Wilmatkol&syd
 SFSP - Winona Comm. Pavilion
 SFSP - YMCA Camp Henry Pratt
 Shekinah Glory Baptist Food Pantry
 Shepherds Tent Food Pantry
 Shiloh SDA Comm. Service Center
 Smith County Baptist Assoc.
 Smithville Helping Hands
 SMO Inc. - Walthall Co.
 Society of St. Andrew
 Society of St. Vincent DePaul
 Solid Rock Asmbly of God Food Pantry
 SOS Crystal Springs Food Pantry
 South Delta Charities
 South Jackson SDA
 South Lake Food Pantry

South Pleasant Hill M.B. Church
 Southside Assembly Of God
 Southside Baptist Church
 Southwest Miss. Opportunity
 St. Andrews Mission Soup Kitchen
 St. Andrews Mission, Inc.
 St. Columb's Iona House Food Pantry
 St. Gabriel Mercy Center
 St. James Bethel
 St. James Temple C.O.G.I.C. Outreach
 St. John M.B. Church Food Pantry
 St. Joseph's Food Pantry
 St. Luke The Evang. Catholic Church
 St. Luke U.M.C. Food Pantry
 St. Mark C.O.G.I.C.
 St. Paul M.B. Church Food Pantry
 St. Vincent DePaul
 Starkville Church Of God
 State Line Baptist Food Pantry
 Stephen Chapel M.B. Church
 Stewpot Community Children's Program
 Stewpot Community Services After-School
 Stewpot Community Services Food Pantry
 Stewpot Community Services Kitchen
 Sturgis Baptist Church
 T.E.A.M. Inc.
 The Food Depot of Tishomingo County
 The Pointe Church Food Pantry
 The Salvation Army Food Pantry
 The Salvation Army Men's Shelter
 The Salvation Army-Laurel
 Tilton U.M.C. Outreach Ministry
 Tinnin Road Church Of Christ
 Tippah Good Samaritan North
 Town of Bolton Dev. Corp.
 Town of Cary
 Triumphant Baptist Church
 True Light Ministry
 True Vine M.B.C. Food Pantry
 True Word Ministries
 Union Co. Baptist Assoc.
 Union Hill M.B. Church
 United Community Dev. Outreach
 Unity M.B. Church
 Village of Dreams
 Voice of Calvary
 Walden Chapel United Methodist
 Walthall County Food Pantry
 Watkins Elementary School
 We 2gether Creating Change
 We Care Community Services
 We Care Mission
 Webster County Baptist Association
 Wesley Youth Foundation
 World Of Truth Worship Center
 World Overcomers Food Outreach
 Wynnndale Baptist Church
 Zion Hill C.M.E. Church

AGENCY RELATIONS & PROGRAMS

In the 56-county area which Mississippi Food Network (MFN) services, we partner with 430 agencies that consist of food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, group homes, residential facilities, senior citizen action agencies, schools and day care centers. All are either a non-profit organization or a church. These partner agencies provide the local communities with supplemental food for families at risk for hunger. All food acquired at Mississippi Food Network, whether donated or purchased, is distributed through these agencies.

In 2016-2017 MFN added 12 new agencies in Hinds, Marshall, Warren, Neshoba, Madison, Lamar and Rankin counties. Of the new agencies, seven are Food Pantries offering families prepared boxes consisting of shelf-stable foods as well as fresh produce. One of the new agencies is a soup kitchen serving hot lunches 5 days a week. Three of the new agencies are non-profit group homes and residential facilities.

Mississippi Food Network's two Kids Cafés and Afterschool "At Risk" Snack Programs provided a total of 33,556 meals and after-school snacks. These programs are located in the following counties: Holmes, Leflore, Grenada, Washington, Warren, Jones, Jefferson Davis, Forrest, Sharkey, Yazoo, Lowndes and Newton.

Mississippi Food Network served as a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sponsor in order to provide meals during the summer for children in low-income rural areas with few resources. This past year, we provided 46,869 meals to children at 29 feeding sites in the following 20 counties: Newton, Leflore, Grenada, Yazoo, Holmes, Lowndes, Noxubee, Rankin, Montgomery, Marion, Washington, Sharkey, Clarke, Bolivar, Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Claiborne, Forrest, Warren and Hinds.

MFN's Backpack Program provided 34,616 backpacks at 36 different sites during the school year in the following 13 counties: Hinds, Madison, Forrest, Lowndes, Lamar, Scott, Rankin, Sharkey, Covington, Washington, Bolivar, Leflore, and Oktibbeha.

In addition to the meals distributed weekly through our backpack program, Mississippi Food Network operated two School Pantries in Hinds and Oktibbeha counties. The School Pantries provided food to families of students at the schools as well as the local communities each school serves. This program provided 16,763 pounds of food which equates to 13,969 meals. Shelf-stable foods, as well as fresh produce, was provided.

Through these child feeding programs, we are touching the lives of many families and children who are at risk of not knowing when or where their next meal will be.

OPERATIONS

The Operations branch of Mississippi Food Network (MFN) works daily to collect, warehouse and distribute food statewide in a safe and efficient manner to our 430 member agencies. These agencies, in turn, make this food available to hungry and/or food insecure individuals who live within their communities. In the 2016-17 fiscal year, Mississippi Food Network distributed 19,201,016 pounds of food, which equals to 16,000,846 meals for 1,357,959 people served through our network.

Many of MFN's member agencies pick up directly from our warehouse here on Beatty Street. Agencies located in outlying areas of the state rely on us to make deliveries to them at strategic drop-off sites around the state. Our delivery fleet consists of: one (1) 24-foot box truck; one (1) 14-foot box truck; one (1) tractor with a 48-foot trailer; and, one (1) tractor with a 53-foot trailer. All of these vehicles are refrigerated, and are on the road most days either picking up donations or making deliveries to member agencies.

MFN remains contracted with the Mississippi Department of Human Services to warehouse and distribute food through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Additionally, a contract with the Mississippi Department of Health, requires MFN to distribute 12,503 food boxes each month to senior citizens (over the age of 60) through its Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).

The food MFN distributes not only comes through the federal and state agencies named above, but also from other sources, such as national donations through our affiliation with Feeding America from such vendors as Kellogg, Nabisco, Conagra, etc. Local donations are also received from in-store pickups from Wal-Mart, Sam's, Kroger, etc. Various grants allow MFN to purchase fresh produce and shelf-stable items we don't normally receive through our usual sources.



EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The External Affairs Department helps raise funds and awareness to promote the programs and services of Mississippi Food Network. We raise funds through a diverse revenue stream. Our direct mail program solicits donations from individuals through our acquisition and cultivation program. Grant funds from private and corporate foundations and our corporate partners are also an important part of the fundraising efforts of Mississippi Food Network. We appreciate the support of our individual and corporate partners in our fight against hunger.

The 3rd Annual Moonlight Market was held in March 2016 at the Farmer's Market in Jackson. Attendees enjoyed shopping with Mississippi farmers and vendors. Chef Nick Wallace and Chef Mark Coblentz prepared a delicious meal for everyone, along with a spectacular cooking demonstration of their signature dishes. This is an annual event held in March to benefit the programs and services of Mississippi Food Network.

Community volunteers continue to be an important part of the operations of Mississippi Food Network. Their assistance in packing the Commodity Supplemental Food Program boxes for senior citizens and sorting and repacking food drive and donated product into pantry boxes helps us better serve our member agencies and their clients. During the 2017 fiscal year, we had 2,050 community volunteers providing 4,946 hours of volunteer service. In 2017, a volunteer hour of service had a value of \$19.85 in Mississippi.

We have several major media driven food drives that are important to our food distribution, especially around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The 16-WAPT Food for Families Food Drive is our largest food drive and provided 162,857 meals. Other media food drive events are the UPS-iHeartMedia Share Your Holidays that raised 36,309 meals, WJTV Pack the Pickup that raised 7,068 meals, U.S. 96.3 Stuff the Bus that raised 4,857 meals and the 16-WAPT Turkey Drive that collected 1,243 turkeys that were distributed to member agencies and their clients. In addition to the media food drives, we also partner with many agencies such as State Bank and Trust, United States Post Office Annual Stamp Out Hunger, Boy Scouts Troop 21, agencies of the federal government, Regions Bank and other community groups. We appreciate each of these great partners who work with us in our fight against food insecurity and hunger.

Communications is another important area in the non-profit arena, and we continually strive to keep our donors, volunteers, and other community partners informed through our website (www.msfoodnet.org), Facebook (www.facebook.com/MSFoodNetwork), and Twitter (@MSFoodNet) accounts.



3rd Annual Moonlight Market event featured the culinary skills of Chefs **Nick Wallace** (l) and **Mark Coblentz**, who also performed cooking demonstrations for the audience.





19,201,016

pounds of food were distributed

12,503

food boxes went to senior citizens through our Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

34,616

backpacks filled with nutritious food were provided to needy children at 36 sites

33,556

snacks were provided to children in Afterschool At-Risk Program at 14 sites

46,869

meals were provided to children at 29 sites through Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The Mississippi Food Network strives to reflect in its staff, board, and agencies the diversity of Mississippi and the cultural groups served. We respect people of all races, religions, ethnicities, genders, ages, sexual orientations, or physical disabilities, and will not allow differences to affect services and will be sensitive to the diverse cultures served in the acquisition and allocation of grocery products. Mississippi Food Network has a responsibility to present the diverse face of hunger to donors and the general public in its information about hunger.





www.msfoodnet.org

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COVER

Children Helping Children . . .

Every year during our annual turkey drive, not only do we get groups, clubs, organizations and individuals who show up in droves to help make sure that the needy are not forgotten during the holidays, but we also get children . . . ***lots and lots of children!***

Yes, it's a great photo op, but when asked "Why?", they respond, "I want to help!" And, we are so grateful to all of them for their kind hearts!
