



FEEDING MONTANA

News from Montana Food Bank Network

www.mfbn.org

It breaks my heart...

My children are always hungry

My name is Elizabeth. What does it mean for my family to go hungry? The answer is simple. There's nothing in the cupboard. Our table is bare. My husband made a reasonable wage before he became disabled, but now we have nothing. We are homeless and we are frightened. One of the worst days of my life was when I had to walk away from our home to start living with family members and in motels.

I've always been able to have a roof over my children's heads. Now, we're never sure where that roof will be. I'm so worried about my children. It pains me to see them hungry. If you're a parent or grandparent, you can imagine the feeling you'd have if those you love went to bed hungry.

I've become an expert at stretching food

Perhaps you can understand more fully why I appreciate what we receive here at the Haven House food

"This evening, my children will have food in their stomachs...and that means I will sleep with a smile on my face tonight."
— ELIZABETH

pantry in Hamilton, Montana. Just today, we received a box of canned goods, veggies, some baking products, milk, juice and pasta. Do you

know what that means to us? It means we eat tonight as a family...and, when I stretch it, we'll have food for several more days.

When I think of your donations to the Montana Food Bank Network and to our food pantry, my heart jumps with joy. We simply would not make it without the generosity of so many.

This evening my children will not go to bed hungry...and that means I will sleep with a smile on my face tonight.

We won't be able to come to the food pantry for a while, though. That's because we need to save up for the gas for the 14-mile trip. But we'll do what we have to do to feed our family. Haven House, the Montana Food Bank Network and you who are so generous are saving our lives. Oh, how I thank you.

Thank you for your generosity. I don't know what we would do without your caring and compassion.



Photo has been changed to protect the identity of the client

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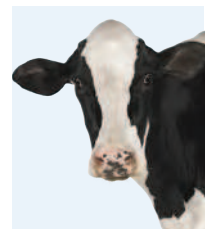
The food I eat comes from the Food Bank

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A WORD OF GRATITUDE



TO PEGGY GRIMES

After nearly 20 years of public service and leadership in our fight against hunger, Montana Food Bank Network CEO Peggy Grimes has announced her retirement.

Peggy Grimes, CEO

We'd like to take this moment to thank Peggy for her compassion—and recognize her tremendous contribution to the good work that we do.

Peggy began her career with the Montana Food Bank Network in the spring of 1993. At that time there was no warehouse here. No semi-trucks. No other staff. Under Peggy's leadership (and thanks in large part to generous friends like you) we have grown today into a 26,000 square foot building that distributes an average of 8 million pounds of food per year for our hungry neighbors.

Throughout her career, Peggy has been a persistent and passionate voice in the fight against hunger in Montana. Although she will no longer be here day in and day out, her support for hungry children and families in our community will never waver. Neither will ours.

We are just as committed as ever to a hunger-free Montana

Peggy's knowledge, experience and expertise will be hard to replace. It will take time to find just the right person to fill her shoes, and we have begun our search. In the meantime, you can trust that we are committed to maintaining the same level of service as always. We are dedicated to pursuing our vision of a Montana free from the ravages of hunger. A place where everyone has equal access to nutritious food.

Thank you for helping make that happen. You are a special friend of the Montana Food Bank Network and we are so happy to count on your ongoing support. If you have questions, please call us at any time. We hope you will join us in wishing Peggy a very happy and fulfilling retirement.

Thank you for all that you do.

Kim Jolliffe-Meeks

Kim Jolliffe-Meeks, Board Chair

Making a profound difference



Mike Halligan, DPWF Executive Director and Kathryn McCleerey, MFBN Chief Development Officer

The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation is making a profound difference in the lives of the most vulnerable among us, through their generous gift of \$160,000 which went to various food banks and shelters via the Montana Food Bank Network. "The board is still very sensitive to the issues surrounding the economy and the tremendous need they see in communities across the state," said Mike Halligan, Executive Director, "We're going to do everything we can to make sure those resources are provided for." Over its lifespan, **the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation has donated more than \$120 million to charitable causes throughout Montana.**

You're invited:

Big Sky BBQ!

It is almost time for the Big Sky BBQ! Come one, come all to hear fantastic bands like *Zeppo MT*, *Mudslide Charley*, *Tom Catmull and the Clerics* and *Cash for Junkers!* Mouthwatering BBQ will be provided by Famous Dave's, Outback Steakhouse, Finn & Porter, Mullan Station and Burns Street Bistro. The 3rd Annual Big Sky BBQ will be held June 30 at Big Sky Brewing Company in Missoula! Call Kattie at (800) 809-4752 for more information or go to www.thebigskybbq.com



I live in the woods...

but the food I eat comes from the Food Bank

My name is Robert. When you live in the woods and are an epileptic, as I am, you really appreciate a caring place like Missoula 3:16 Rescue Mission. I love what goes on here at the Mission...and I'm grateful to the Montana Food Bank Network for the food it makes available to people like me.

There are four of us that live in the woods, and we all pitch in to do what needs to be done. We're all pretty good cooks. But I still come to the Mission for breakfast and lunch. I'm also grateful for the food I receive from the Mission's shelves—food I can take back to my campsite. I've got a little stove and I cook what I'm given here.

You are one of those good people in our world

Even though I don't have much of this world's goods, I'm still a grateful man. This morning I breathed on the mirror and it fogged up—always a good sign. There are lots

of good people in this world...and I know that you who give your money and time to the Montana Food Bank Network rank right there at the top. Thank you for your kindness to someone you've never even met.

I read the papers here and I'm aware of the state of our economy. You must be a special person to care for people like you do. Thanks for not looking down on a guy like me. I'm doing the best I can...and at least I can say, *thank you* for your kindness.

The Mission and Montana Food Bank Network mean the world to me...and so do you. Thank you for the food.

"Thanks for not looking down on a guy like me. I'm doing the best I can...and at least I can say, 'thank you' for your kindness."
—ROBERT



Maximize your gift to the Montana Food Bank Network

When Doug and Marsha Okland determined they wanted to maximize their end-of-year giving through the Montana Endowment Tax Credit, they searched for qualified organizations that they considered worthy of their strong support. After several conversations and lots of questions, they chose a deferred gift annuity through the Montana Community Foundation for the benefit of the Montana Food Bank Network, to help end hunger in Montana. If you would like to maximize your gift to the Montana Food Bank Network,

be thoughtful about your giving and/or take advantage of the Montana Endowment Tax Credit, a planned gift could be an important tool for you. **We recommend deferred gift annuities** as the simplest, most effective tool for donors who wish to take advantage of the **Montana Endowment Tax Credit**. Contact Kathryn McCleerey at (406) 721-3825 ext. 244 or kmccleerey@mfbn.org for more information or to talk about your many giving options.



"After researching several charities we determined that the Montana Food Bank Network best met our goals. We believe in their mission of ending hunger in Montana and were impressed with their low administrative costs, which allow more money for programs. We are delighted to support their efforts."

A Bucket List you will be proud of...

One that will make an immediate difference in the lives of hungry people

It's common these days for people to pursue their bucket lists, which may include traveling to exotic places, trying an extreme sport, climbing a volcano, learning to play the violin, writing a novel, swimming with the dolphins...you name it. Well, at the Montana Food Bank Network we also have a bucket list we'd like you to consider. Here is what a generous donation can do for those who are hungry in our state:

- \$5 provides enough food for 35 meals for families who are hungry
- \$20 provides enough food for 140 meals...many of which will help children not only survive, but also thrive and do well in school
- \$100 helps provide 100 gallons of fresh milk
- \$350 provides a pallet of cereal...something mothers, especially, desperately need for their hungry children
- \$500 provides processing for one cow (Isn't it great to live in Montana!)

And of great importance...
\$1,000 provides enough diesel fuel for a statewide delivery of food. The Montana Food Bank Network is able to access tons of

nutritious food. However, one of our greatest challenges is to be able to transport that food directly to where it is needed most.

But whether your gift is great or small, we urge you to do what you can to provide life-sustaining food for our friends and neighbors.

There are many ways you can help us move a step closer to a hunger-free Montana. You can write a check or give a generous donation online, you can volunteer your time and energy at our warehouse or at a nearby food pantry, or you may want to organize a food drive in your community. If you and your church, synagogue, service club or other organization would like to combine your efforts to organize



such a drive, contact Agency Relations at (800) 809-4752 or at agencyinfo@mfbn.org.

In 2011, the Montana Food Bank Network supplemented local agencies with nearly 8 million pounds of food. From Conner to Culbertson, Ekalaka to Eureka, name an emergency feeding organization and they are probably on our list. Right now, while the needs of the hungry in Montana are fresh on your mind, we urge you to use the enclosed remit slip to give your donation. For your convenience, you may also give your gift on our secure website at www.mfbn.org. Thank you for being a caring friend to hungry families, children and seniors who need to put food on their tables...not just today, but every day of the year. Thank you in advance for your support.

Visit us on Facebook at facebook.com/feedingmontana
AND
Follow us on Twitter @mfbn to see the work you support and spread the word about Montana Food Bank Network!



MY SUMMER DONATION

YES, you can count on my continued support of the Montana Food Bank Network during the summer months.

Here's my gift of: \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

I commit to a monthly gift of \$ _____. My first gift is enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please make your check payable to:

MONTANA FOOD BANK NETWORK

P.O. Box 17830, Missoula, MT 59808-7830

Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send a receipt for your records.

FEEDING AMERICA



Please charge my gift on my credit card:

VISA MC AMEX DISC

CARD NUMBER _____

EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

TELEPHONE # _____

My e-mail address is: _____

@ _____

To charge your gift by phone, please call (800) 809-4752 or give online at www.mfbn.org

Your gifts change lives!

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