

You give us and

for that I'm
always grateful

Food For Thought Outreach



2020-2021 Annual Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01 Introduction
- 02 Program Review
- 03 Fundraising Efforts
- 04 Thank You
- 05 Looking Ahead



Introduction

This report reflects the Food For Thought year of August 2020 through July 2021

Letter from our Founder & CEO

Tiffanie Nelson

Our 2020-2021 year was a year of challenge, change, and ultimately, purpose.

Never has our purpose been so clear. We are here to bridge the meal gap in the lives of the children we serve, and empower them to get the most out of their education. Above all else, this is what matters to us as an organization. Staying focused on our mission and delivering to the children who need us. This is what has kept us on track throughout this unique year.

This year presented distractions and obstacles at every turn, but the team at Food For Thought remained determined.

While we are all living in the time of a pandemic, the impacts are not equal. Logistically, the pandemic has created an increase in food costs and a decrease in food availability with widespread supply chain issues. Understandably, the pandemic decreased our volunteer force creating a need for creative solutions to improve our capacity to move food and serve children. The pandemic impacted the health of our staff and board just as it impacted your circle of family, friends, and co-workers. We worked longer hours with less support, like many of you.

But for the children we serve, the food insecure, the families living on the margins, the pandemic caused a series of severe housing, income, and transportation issues. Add to that rising costs of groceries, fuel, and rent, and the children we serve continue to feel the grip of the pandemic.

The support you have provided this year as donors and volunteers has empowered us to show up and meet the needs of the community. We have bridged the meal gap and given hope to thousands of children. Never has your support been more needed and never have I seen more grateful children for the food they receive.



Tiffanie M Nelson

By the Numbers

Fiscal Year Summary: 2020/2021

SERVED:

3,300

Students

WITH:

74,378

Avg. Food Items
Distributed/Mo*

BY:

2,000

Volunteer Hours

600

Families

195,720

Snacks Provided

3,747

Van Miles (3x increase)

THROUGH:

113

Curbside Services

28,899

In-Kind Food Donations

7

Staff Members
(5 FT/ 2PT)

1,800

Backpacks
Distributed/Week*

\$21,679

In Kind Donation Value

*January - May



Food Insecurity

A look at our community

Our goal is to continue to support the children in our program developmentally and educationally by bridging the gap the food insecurity gap that is expected to grow after the impacts of Covid-19, especially as food prices have increased 40% since January 2020.*

	Food Insecure Homes*	Food Insecure Children*
National	25%	1 in 5
Florida	25%	1 in 4
Okaloosa County	20%	1 in 3
Walton County	22%	1 in 3

*Source: Feeding America, Feeding Florida & World Bank





Program Review

A look at the different programs Food For Thought ran to serve the children in our community.



+Nine Months of Curbside Services

Curbside Services ran from March 2020, and continued into the summer of 2021.

Services provided in **Walton & Okaloosa County:**

40

Weeks of
Curbside Services

200+

Total Curbside Services

8

Locations

2

Counties

Full Circle Kitchen

FFT continued cooking classes in the Emeril Lagasse Full Circle Kitchen.

Serving these Students:

AMI Kids

Walton Academy

Children in Crisis

Boys & Girls Club of the Emerald Coast

Chautauqua CAT Team

23+

Classes

Some classes were pre-recorded by chefs early in the year, then in-person classes were able to resume in the Spring



Holiday Services: Thanksgiving & Christmas Services grew by 38%



Holiday Sponsors:

Corcoran Reverie
The Alys Foundation
The St. Joe Community Foundation

Thanksgiving Service



635 Families
Served =
2,540 Children

- 30,000 Food Items
- 530 Turkeys
- All Food Distributed in 5 hours at all 5 locations

Christmas Service



610 Families
Served =
2,400 Children

- 200 Individual Volunteer Hours
- 2.5 Tons of Produce
- 1000 loaves of Bread
- 50,000 food items packed

*Thank you, 20/30 North Studios
for capturing photos & videos*

Modified Backpack Program

21 schools relaunched a modified backpack program, starting in January of 2021.

1,844 22,128

Avg. Students Served/Week

Avg. Food Items/Week

21

Total Schools Served

436

Total Modified Backpack Services



Full Circle Garden

The Full Circle Garden continued to produce fresh food throughout the year at the Destin Pantry.

Our garden provided a supplemental produce source to our curbside services & kitchen classes

<i>Celery</i>	<i>Tomatoes</i>	<i>Basil</i>	<i>Iceberg Lettuce</i>
<i>Brussel Sprouts</i>	<i>Cucumbers</i>	<i>Cilantro</i>	<i>Dill</i>
<i>Red & Flat Cabbage</i>	<i>Green Beans</i>	<i>Potatoes</i>	<i>Zucchini</i>
<i>Broccoli</i>	<i>Carrots</i>		

**Thank you
Garden Partners &
Volunteers!**

*Children In Crisis
Boys & Girls Club
Junior League of Emerald Coast
Eco Green Solutions
Kodiak Tree Service
Lowe's Home Improvement*

Volunteer Hours
90



Fresh for Summer

FFT was able to DOUBLE the number of fresh food items in our summer curbside services.

600+

Families Served

20

Fresh Food Items
Provided per Service



FRESH FOR THE SUMMER

This summer **FFT** will provide
25 Curbside Food Pickups
5 Locations.
5 Services at each Location.

To Include, fresh:
*Fruit*Vegetables*Bread*Cheese Sticks





Fundraising Efforts

A summary of August 2020 - July 2021 Fundraising Events

Fundraising

Summary

Food For Thought raised money virtually, while large fundraising events were on pause due to Covid-19 precautions.

28,899

In-Kind Food Item
Donations

\$21,679

In Kind Donation Food
Item Value

\$204K

Stock the Pantry

\$25K

Full Circle Dinner

\$12.8K

Giving Tuesday

\$19.1K

Fresh for Summer

\$17.4K

Seasonal Fundraisers*

**Seasonal Fundraising Includes: Holiday Sponsor a Family, \$50 for 50, & Spring Silent Auction*



7th Annual Stock the Pantry Goes **Virtual**

Food for Thought had record breaking results with our virtual fundraiser.

\$204,753

Amount raised; goal of \$150,000

272,764

Equivalent food items; goal of 200K

11

Teams

1st Place: Newman-Dailey Resort Properties
2nd: Corcoran Reverie **3rd:** The Seaside Style



Annual Full Circle Dinner

The Hilton Sandestin and Seagar's Steakhouse hosted the annual chef's dinner.

The intimate event featured 7 local chefs, each preparing one course of the meal.

Featuring:

- Dan Vargo - Hilton Sandestin
- Todd Misener - Word of Mouth Restaurant Group
- Scott Plumley - The Wine Bar and Craft Bar
- Nikhil Abuvala - Roux30a
- Dan Pettis - One Twenty A Modern Bistro
- Matt Moore - Watercolor Resort
- Yascha Becker - Hilton Sandestin

\$25,000

Total Raised

Special thanks to Emily Roeckle for her coordination of this event



Food Donations

Many wonderful organizations, families & individuals all have contributed to the **28K+ food** items we received over the last year!

Whole Foods | Girl Scouts | Church of Latter Day Saints | Ohana Institute | DeFuniak Springs Police Department | Destiny Worship Center | Lulu's Destin | South Walton High School





Thank You

It takes a community for us to continue to serve.
We would like to especially thank your Board of
Directors, Board Committees and our staff.

Five Years at the Destin Pantry

May 2021 marks five years with our Destin Pantry

The City of Destin honored Food For Thought with “Food For Thought Day” Proclamation for May 18th.



food for thought
Destin Pantry Established in 2016



Five Years at the Destin Pantry: Thank you

Thank you to the partners & the City of Destin that have helped make the Destin Pantry a success.

- City of Destin
- Destin Chamber of Commerce
- Destin City Council
- Dixon Kazik Construction
- Newman-Dailey Resort Properties
- Rotary Club of Destin
- Smartbank
- Taylor Allen Properties



Grants & Corporate Sponsorships

August 1, 2020- July 31, 2021

Grants :

- American Endowment Foundation
- Area Rotary Clubs COVID Grant
- Bank of America
- Benevity Fund
- Destin Charity Wine Auction Foundation
- Emeril Lagasse Foundation
- Haley Herbert & Marian Foundation
- In Faith Community Foundation
- Publix Super Market Charities, Inc
- Rotary Club of Destin
- The Alys Foundation
- The John and Katherine Duda Foundation
- The Seaside Interfaith Chapel
- The St. Joe Community Foundation
- Walmart Rural Food Security Initiative Grant through Living Healthy in Florida
- Windgate Charitable Foundation

\$257,384

Total in Grants Received

Corporate Sponsors:

- Beau Interiors
- Corcoran Reverie
- Southern Star Dolphin Cruises & Buccaneer Pirate Cruise
- Howard Hospitality (Residence Inn & Courtyard by Marriott)
- Mercantile

Holiday & Seasonal Sponsors:

- Corcoran Reverie
- The Alys Foundation
- The St. Joe Community Foundation

Learn how you can become a Corporate Sponsor:

www.fftfl.org

Volunteers

Our volunteers are the heartbeat that keeps our mission alive! A special thanks to these monthly groups:

Beachside Community Church | CHELCO | Rotary Club of DeFuniak Springs | Good News UMC
Junior League of Emerald Coast | The Church of Latter Day Saints | Legendary | Meraki Solar
The Seaside Interfaith Chapel | Seaside Neighborhood School | The Seaside Style | SmartBank
Somerby | Taylor Allen Properties | Walton Academy | Xator Corporation



Interested in volunteering? Contact us today! volunteer@fftl.org

Volunteers in Action



Thank You!



Volunteers in Action



Thank
You!



Volunteers in Action

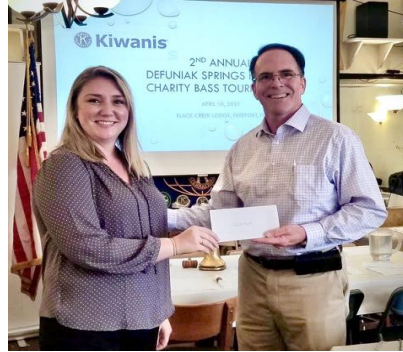


Thank
You!

Beneficiary Fundraising Events

Thank you to the following events:

- Destin Charity Wine Auction
- A Dinner Series: Goat Island Dinner
- DeFuniak Springs Kiwanis Bass Tournament
- Chi Chi Miguel Throwdown
- Destin Rotary Crawfish Boil
- Chiringo Anniversary Party





Looking Ahead

The end of 2021 and into the next year

Looking Ahead

2021 is estimated to have:

10%

Increase in Services

3,420

Students

34

Schools

... which will require:

+2,000,000

Food Items for ALL programs

\$712,720

In Food Costs

5,000

Volunteer Hours
(150% increase)

... and also continue serve these programs:

Weekly Backpacks

Monthly Curbside

Snack Program

Holiday Services

Full Circle Garden

Full Circle Cooking Classes

Summer Services

Food for Thought is 11 Years Strong



As we look forward into another uncertain year, we stay steadfast in our commitment to our goals.

Our goal is to return to 100% backpack delivery to all our 34 partner schools, while continuing to serve as the leading voice in our community for food insecurity awareness.

We are certain that each day we, along with our volunteers, work to support our mission.

We are certain that we have been serving our community for the last ten years and will continue to do so as we move into year 11..

And, we are certain that now, more than ever, we look to our community for support.

Support through volunteerism, through donations, and through helping bring awareness and shine a light on food insecurity.

Food For Thought is 11 years strong.



**Thank you, Billie Gaffrey, a Seaside Neighborhood school art teacher and local artist,
for the beautiful chalkboard art featured throughout this report!**