



wtxfoodbank.org

COMMUNITY DISH

Feeding More Than *Hunger*.

SPRING 2024



**YOU SHARE HOPE WITH
WEST TEXAS NEIGHBORS
FACING HUNGER**



MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



LIBBY STEPHENS
Chief Executive Officer

DEAR FRIEND,

I want to take a moment to thank you for your support during the holidays, which made an incredible impact in our efforts to end hunger here in West Texas.

Starting off the new year strong was one of our goals here at the West Texas Food Bank, and your support ensured we could do just that. Although a new year also means new challenges, both seen and unseen, I have faith that our shared work will better the lives of thousands of neighbors.

Growing uncertainty in the local oil industry is one challenge our region faces, alongside the high cost of living. For older adults who call West Texas home, a fixed income isn't always enough to cover every cost, which leads to difficult choices about which essentials must be sacrificed.

This is why your support is so greatly needed, and so greatly appreciated. In this issue of *Community Dish*, I hope you will see the powerful impact you can have with your generosity.

Catalina, who you will meet on page 4, is one older neighbor whose life has been changed by your partnership. Thanks to you, she and her family can access plenty of nourishing food.

I look forward to our continued partnership in 2024. Together, we can help make sure neighbors of all ages across the Permian Basin can enjoy a full table.

All my best,

Libby Stephens
Chief Executive Officer

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FAYE IS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Faye's bright smile is a common sight at the Northside Community Senior Center. As a receptionist, she welcomes neighbors to the center five days a week.

Faye's job is just one way that she stays active in the community since retiring from her career as a school bus monitor. It's also how she helps supplement her fixed Social Security income while living costs remain so high.

For Faye, a nutritious meal is more than fuel — it's medicine. Because Faye lives with diabetes, she has to limit her carbohydrate intake to ensure she feels her best. That can make grocery shopping on a budget difficult.

Thankfully, Faye learned that she could pick up food boxes to take home right from the Senior Center — a convenient way for her to help meet her dietary needs without breaking the bank. Faye says the food from the boxes, including canned fruits and vegetables as well as proteins, can last as long as a month.

"I feel blessed and enjoy what I receive," Faye shares gratefully.

Through your support of the West Texas Food Bank, you are truly sharing so much health and hope with our older neighbors like Faye. She truly appreciates your partnership, saying "this is a blessing to have someone to help."



You bring neighbors like Faye hope in the form of healthy food.

BOOM TOWN SHOWDOWN

The Boom Town Showdown marked a powerful collaborative effort as 12 companies rallied together during Hunger Action Month to address local food insecurity.

With unwavering commitment, these businesses combined forces to assemble an impressive 27,000 boxes

filled with essential items for families facing hunger during the holiday season.

The highlight of the event was the friendly competition between companies. Each vied to pack the most boxes and earn the prestigious title of "King of the Road," as well as a Stanley-sized trophy.

Fasken Oil & Ranch emerged as the winner, constructing a remarkable 3,000 boxes in just under two hours. Their achievement not only earned them the trophy, but also symbolized the impactful change that can be achieved when businesses unite for a common cause.

The Boom Town Showdown truly shows the positive influence that corporate collaboration can have on addressing societal challenges. Congratulations, Fasken Oil & Ranch!

Fasken Oil & Ranch took home the title of "King of the Road" with 3,000 food boxes packed in just two hours!



Feeding **More Than** *Hunger.*



Your support means a full table for Catalina and her children and grandchildren.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING CATALINA'S FAMILY!

Catalina is a loving mother of four and grandmother of five. Food is something she enjoys sharing with her family, especially her son Luis, 33. Together, they love grilling and planning family cookouts for everyone.

Luis has been especially supportive for Catalina recently, she says, as she has been in and out of the hospital for cancer treatment and unable to work. Through chemotherapy and its challenging side effects, he has shared his home while she recovers.

Friends like you are also a pillar of support for Catalina as she heals. With your partnership, she can access nutritious food through the Catholic Charities Food Pantry, an agency partner of the West Texas Food Bank.

There, she picks up the ingredients needed to make beloved dishes for herself and her family, like enchiladas, asado and mole.

"The more we stick together, the easier life can be," Catalina says, speaking to the value of your partnership and its impact on her life.

Our vision of a West Texas without hunger is only possible when, like Catalina says, we stick together. Thank you for standing with us in this critical mission!

**Our conversation with Catalina was translated from Spanish to English.*

ConocoPhillips Helps Fight Senior Hunger!

The West Texas Food Bank is pleased to announce a gift from ConocoPhillips. The generous donation of \$227,000 was specifically earmarked to support our Senior Box Program.

Seniors in West Texas are especially impacted by economic uncertainty. This donation allows us to provide extra food boxes to West Texas seniors facing hunger, as well as keep fuel in our delivery vans.

The boxes provided through this program are carefully packed to contain a variety of nutritious items catered to the unique dietary requirements that many seniors have.

The impact of ConocoPhillips' donation is felt far and wide. We are so grateful for this gift from ConocoPhillips!

