



Food for Thought

March 2015

FIGHTING HUNGER

FEEDING HOPE

Yahoo! Donates \$10,000 to Valley Food Bank

The extraordinary Yahoo! Corporation chose the Valley Food Bank as the recipient for a \$10,000 donation, as well as a full day of volunteer service.

Ad Operations Senior Director, Melissa Schnurstein said Yahoo! was looking to partner with a local, non-profit organization. "We were just so impressed how the food bank manages with such a small staff". She conveys that she was also impressed with the efforts and accomplishments of Will Hernandez, Valley Food Bank Director. She knew right then that she was going to submit the food bank for one of its \$10,000 endowments.

Yahoo! Employee Foundation, known as YEF, is a global employee managed foundation. Melissa says each office tries to focus on its local community. "Because the foundation is employee run, employees can donate to any organization they choose." She further mentions Yahoo! matches its employee donations \$1 for \$1.

Part of Yahoo!'s Employee Foundation also includes Summer of Service. Melissa explains it is a program where employees volunteer



Thanks Yahoo! for your continued partnership!

one day during the summer at a non-profit organization of their choosing. Employees are excused and encouraged to take one day off from work to volunteer. She says, "We are very proud of this program and it is important we make a charitable impact in the community."

"Yahoo! Team Members converged on the food bank and brought donated food, created a pallet of emergency food boxes, and inspected, sorted, counted, and shelved a pallet of condiments," Will says. The camaraderie and abundance of energy was contagious!

DID YOU KNOW?

51%

of students across the **NATION'S**

public schools 

are in **POVERTY**

Southern Education Foundation, 2015

House Goes up in Smoke – Alex Pushes On

The smell of smoke woke Alex up at 1 am. Confused by the smell and bleak darkness, it took him a moment to realize what was going on. Flames and smoke were starting to surround him as he ran through his house. Minutes later, as Alex and his cousin stood outside, the magnitude of what was happening began to sink in. Their house was burning down.

As Alex tried to get his life back together, he found it harder to make ends meet. While trying to secure a stable place to sleep, he found himself lacking the basic things needed for survival. When Alex found out about the New Life in His Presence food pantry, he was extremely grateful for the opportunity to have a good amount of healthy food to eat, which allowed him to focus on other, more dire issues. And although he has little left to his name, Alex said that God told him to keep pushing. So that is exactly just what he's doing. Alex thanked the New Life volunteers as well as the Valley Food Bank for its efforts and donations. The food and prayer Alex received helped him to take steps towards rebuilding his life.



A Story from the Holidays



Reyna and her Thanksgiving turkey.

“I came to the Food Pantry years ago. I was so blessed back then with the food from the pantry because I had been laid off from work and I had no money coming in. The pantry was helping me put food on my table for many months. I also had friends there when I needed them. I did not have enough money to buy food for Thanksgiving. To my surprise, I was given all the needed food items to make a decent meal and have a nice gathering with family and our grandsons. Thanks to the food pantry and donors that made this possible. Thank you!” ~ Reyna

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