

Community Garden Provides Fresh Vegetables for Mobile Pantry

We're ecstatic to be able to offer veggies fresh out of our garden in food boxes this summer.

There's nothing better than biting into a fresh summer tomato right off the vine!

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers who are maintaining the gardens and donors like you, that experience will be a reality for thousands of deserving people.



THE HUNGER HERO UPDATE

SPRING 2022

Second Helping

THANKS TO YOU, SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO STEAL FOOD ANYMORE

It's hard to know what goes through a child's mind when they're worried about going hungry.

As parents, we do our best to protect our kids from the hardships of life. But kids know. And sometimes they do things to protect *us*.

Amber was one of those brave kids.

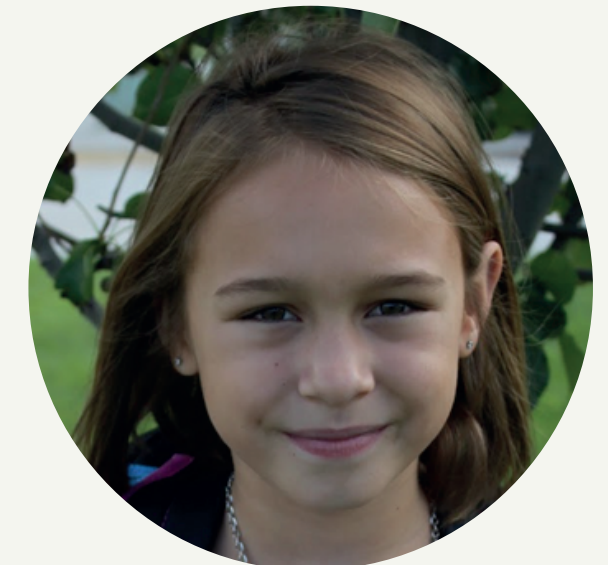
It didn't seem like she was being brave, though, to the teachers and principal at her school. It seemed like nothing more than just bad behavior.

Amber had always been a good kid, got good grades, and was well-behaved.

At the beginning of the school year, Amber's parents signed her up for free breakfast and lunch, like so many families were having to do.

But, a few months into the school year, Amber started having behavioral problems. And it was affecting her success at school.

Several times, Amber was caught stealing food from her classmates - lunches and snacks. It seemed to happen a lot on Fridays. Her teacher would find the stolen food in her pockets, backpack, and desk.



Amber isn't worried about food anymore, thanks to you!

This wasn't like Amber at all, so her teacher sat down and talked to her about what was going on.

As it turned out, her family didn't have enough to eat on the weekends. So, Amber was taking food from other kids so she and her siblings would have enough to eat.

She really wanted to help her parents, who she knew were struggling to make ends meet.

Continued inside...



Thursday, June 16, 2022
Doors Open – 5:30 pm
Games Begin – 6:00 pm

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ACTIVITY CENTER
5819 W.Pleasant Ridge Road, Arlington, TX 76016

Summer can be especially difficult as kids are home and there's no school lunch to depend on. Join HIM Center and local law enforcement to help fill baskets with healthy food for deserving families AND have a blast playing BINGO!

BY THE NUMBERS: YOUR IMPACT FEBRUARY - MARCH



8,246 families
received
enough food
for one month



24,220 individuals
received
enough food
for one month



1,729,192 pounds
of food was
distributed to
deserving people

AMBER, Cont'd...

Amber's teacher and principal were heartbroken and they started using their own money to purchase food for Amber to take home. This was a hardship for them. But, before long, they found out about HIM Center from a parent at the school who was a volunteer there.

Amber was immediately signed up for the Backpack to Attack Hunger program, receiving a backpack full of food every Friday. Thanks to you, more than 4,000 students receive a back pack full of healthy food every Friday.

Not only that, but Amber's parents are now coming to HIM Center to pick up food. Now, they don't have to worry about choosing between keeping current on bills or buying food. And that's a big step towards getting back on their feet.

Amber is back to her well behaved self and her family is looking forward to the day when they can pay it forward.

Thank you for being a lifeline to Amber and her family!

A Big Thank You to Our Local Hospital!



Texas Health Hospital Mansfield is dedicated to loving and serving their community. We're so thankful that employees spent their day with us volunteering to distribute healthy food to deserving people.

If you'd like to volunteer, call us at 817-453-3663.

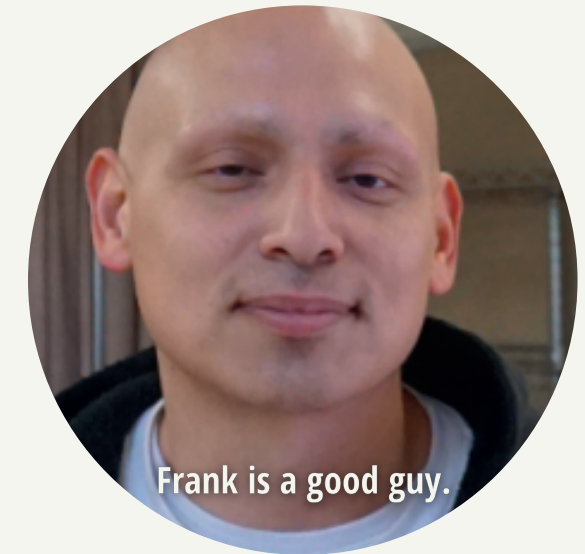
YOU HELP FILL THE GAP FOR FRANK AND HIS FAMILY

Frank is a good guy.

He's providing for his sister, her three children, and his grandfather.

Like many other families over the past couple of years, Frank's sister fell on hard times. They came to live with Frank.

Last year, Frank's grandfather, who lived in East Texas, had a heart attack. Frank went to be with him.



Frank is a good guy.

"I thought we were going to have to bury him."

But Frank's grandfather survived and Frank convinced him to come to Ft. Worth to live with him.

While Frank's sister stays home to care for their grandfather and her children, Frank works hard at a warehouse. He makes decent money, but with 5 mouths to feed and his grandfather's health issues, sometimes the money ends before the week does.

He can come to HIM Center to tide them over until he gets paid and can purchase food on his own.

"I'm thankful for the job I have, but right now our fridge is bare," he said. "That's why I decided to come to HIM Center. It will give me that push until the weekend to allow me to get more funds and fill the fridge on my own."

Frank is appreciative of the healthy options at HIM Center - plenty of fruits, vegetables, and snack packs for the kids.

"Thank you to everyone who's helping people who need it, like me."

YOU'RE HAVING AN IMPACT IN UKRAINE

We've been partnering with Allies in Youth Development, a nonprofit, that helps orphans around the world, including a concerted effort in Ukraine.

Thanks to you, HIM Center recently gave 500 pounds of canned food to Allies that has been shipped to Ukraine. Allies' partners in Ukraine will deliver the food to orphanages, foster families, and leaders who support the orphans.

