2008 FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

"The Lunch Cart "

Making a difference

Business CARE Drives Deliver

Thanks to the giving spirit of more than 265 local businesses, a whopping 1,033,287 pounds of food

was collected during corporate CARE food drives in late 2007. (This includes the purchase power of cash contributions; every dollar donated can buy 10 pounds of food.) Twenty-two companies each collected 10,000 pounds or more. In all, these results translate into 807,000 meals possible for our community's hungry children, seniors and families.

T. Rowe Price Associates Foundation, Inc. amassed the greatest amount of food – 282,832 pounds – from its 670 employees.

Pioneer Sand Co., with 50 employees, earned the Care and Share Care Drive <u>Traveling Trophy</u> by donating more than



900 pounds per worker for a total of 47,413 pounds. Pioneer will host the trophy through 2008 but it'll be "up for grabs" during next year's effort!

Ace Hardware made a hefty third place showing with 19,399 pounds of food from its 112 employees.

Care and Share Food Bank extends heartfelt appreciation to all the businesses that participated in the winter CARE drives.

Year-end results

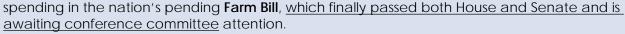
Food Distribution, Programs, Results Expand

Care and Share Food Bank ended 2007 on several "up" notes:

- <u>Food distributions to partner agencies</u> helping working families, seniors and children <u>increased 15</u> percent.
- Overall distribution, which includes assistance to sister Colorado food banks, was up 30 percent to 10.9 million pounds of food.
- <u>Six new Send Hunger Packing</u> sites and <u>two new Kids Cafes</u> were opened in 2007. We served 88,000 meals and 325 children each weekday with nutritious meals or snacks at Kids Cafes. Send Hunger Packing provided food to 86 families each week.



- Mobile food pantries in our rural areas served an average 350 people per stop.
- Care and Share's <u>truck fleet increased by two for a total of seven.</u> One truck was purchased with assistance from the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation and the other was made possible by a grant from ConAgra Foods and America's Second Harvest.
- Care and Share purchased and moved into <u>a new</u> <u>branch facility in Pueblo</u> that <u>doubled storage</u> capacity there.
- The Recipe for Hope building campaign reached the \$6.5 million mark last year, and building plans made it through Planning Commission in December. We're on the path to begin construction early this year.
- Along with other Colorado food banks and in collaboration with America's Second Harvest, Care and Share advocated strongly for key nutrition title





Bridging the gap

King Soopers hosts February food drive



About this time of year, when it seems the cold is never going to abate, thoughts turn to warm weather vacations and holiday get-aways. **But hunger never gets a holiday**. And, as winter food drive donations are depleted, Care and Share needs to shore up for the coming out-of-school months when families are challenged to put more food on the table than usual.

To help meet the coming need, all area King Soopers stores along the Front Range will feature front-of-store displays with food

collection barrels throughout February.

Customers are urged to consider those less fortunate as they shop, and make a donation of non-

perishable items on their way out. Shoppers can also opt to use coupon tear-offs for cash donations to be added to their purchase total at check-out.

Taste, talk and tour

A week of evenings at the warehouse



Ever wonder what happens to the food you donate? How it all gets processed and distributed? Wondering if you could do a little more to help end hunger? Want to meet some other like-minded volunteers?

Then you won't want to miss the *Colorado Springs Business Journal's* Rising Stars "week of evenings" this month. Come enjoy light hors d'ouevres, make new friends, learn about the Care and Share operation AND help pack food for hungry people!

Your stories

Has hunger touched your life?

Have you or someone you know experienced hunger sometime in your life? How did you cope? Did you seek or receive assistance from a food pantry? What are your remembrances of that time and what lessons have carried forward with you?

Care and Share Food Bank wants to hear your stories. Hunger is often an "invisible" issue, and yet a struggle shared by many. Your story could be the inspiration that helps someone else today. If you'd like to share it, please contact Susan McConnell at 719-528-1247, ext 218 or email susan@careandshare.org.

Coming Up

Save the Dates!

April 26-27 Saturday **Winemaker's Dinner (event prequel)**, Craftwood Inn Sunday **Taste of the Springs**, Crowne Plaza Hotel

May 8 HOPE is the Recipe, The Broadmoor

June 3 Dine Out Against Hunger, details TBA

**Sponsorship opportunities are available for all Care and Share events. For more information about sponsoring or purchasing tickets for an event, contact Shannon Coker at 528-1247, ext. 222. As it becomes available, additional event details are posted online at www.careandshare.org.

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