A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

L. RON PRINGLE

Dear Friends,

As the Food Shuttle closed the last chapter of 2021, it was marked by a season filled with remarkable generosity. From 12-year old, Eric Vining, selling luminarias as a fundraiser for the Food Shuttle, to our Holiday Match Challenge supporters, 4 Others Foundation, Oak Foundation, and Michael Cunningham & Jane Whittendale, we were stunned by the generosity set forth by our community.

Now the start of a New Year brings a renewed commitment to continue to seek out the root causes of hunger and collaborate to meet the needs of our neighbors facing hunger. We remain dedicated to our objectives outlined in our 5-Year Strategic Plan such as our pledge to expand the coordination of community resources and strategic partnerships.

We hope you’ll remain close to us this year. If you are not signed up for our monthly E-Newsletter, I encourage you to visit foodshuttle.org/eneews today to make sure you see the stories and updates every month.

Building of a hunger free community takes many hands, each giving their very best in a shared vision for an improved quality of life for all. With the New Year ahead of us, thank you for joining us in this work.

Yours in service,

L. Ron Pringle
President and CEO

LUTHERAN SERVICES CAROLINAS PARTNERSHIP HELPS MEET FOOD NEEDS FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES

In the Triangle area, Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) has stepped up to welcome 200 Afghan refugees and is in the process of securing for them homes and other necessities. Many families left their homeland with nothing but the clothes on their backs. When the enormity of the issue of providing food for these new members of the community became a reality, LSC reached out to Inter-Faith Food Shuttle, and a natural partnership was formed.

Within hours of their first agreement with LSC, the Food Shuttle delivered a chest freezer to the organization to start storing food for the families. As of late December, over 3,000 pounds of food, including halal meat (meat that is permitted by Islamic law), and $1,500 in grocery store gift cards have been provided to the Afghan families who were being resettled. The Food Shuttle is committed to continuing with these provisions as long as is necessary in order to get the families comfortably transitioned into their new communities.

Thanks to support from donors like you, our two organizations can focus on what we do best. With the Food Shuttle meeting the food needs for our new neighbors, LSC can concentrate their efforts on other matters, like housing. Working together, we can ensure that all the basic needs of these families are met. It’s another great example of community helping community to serve the needs of others.
Providing food throughout our community would not be possible without the commitment and collaboration of our Community Partners. These food pantries, shelters, college pantries, and soup kitchens total more than 42 partners. In addition, 37 local churches, nonprofits large and small, and even grassroot initiatives provide the connections needed to ensure that food, education, and resources reach the families, children, and seniors who need them most. Partners like Martin Street Baptist Church, Durham Children’s Initiative, Village Concepts Inc., La Semilla, and Oak City Cares, work in concert with Inter-Faith Food Shuttle to make our vision of a hunger free community a reality.

One in seven North Carolinians face hunger daily, but thanks to a community of generous supporters, relief came through the Food Shuttle’s You Are the Heart of Our Community year-end campaign. 3,375 donors gave a total of over $735,000 in two months of holiday philanthropy. Funding from 4 Others Foundation, Oak Foundation, and Michael Cunningham & Jane Whittendale, provided a Holiday Match Challenge, and gifts made through December 31 were matched up to $125,000. The final tally of donations totaled over $860,000, which included a remarkable #GivingTuesday outpouring of generosity on November 30.
PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION
The partnerships highlighted below show the breadth and depth by which our community partners with us to envision a hunger free community. Thank you for the part you play in this critical mission.

Downtown Raleigh’s Red Hat Amphitheater played host to Comeback Fest on October 23. This celebration of music and community, put together by Band Together NC and United Way of the Greater Triangle, raised over $1M to benefit 100 Triangle charities, including the Food Shuttle.

Whole Foods Markets recently made a $20,000 in-kind gift to Inter-Faith Food Shuttle as an investment in several School Pantries in Wake and Durham counties. One of the schools to benefit was C.C. Spaulding Elementary in Durham, where 99% of the students receive free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches.

Food Lion Feeds sponsored the December 17 WRAL Nights of Lights food collection to benefit the Food Shuttle. Attendees were invited to bring five canned goods to the drive-through holiday light display and, in return, would receive a gift card from Food Lion. 2,030 pounds of food and several thousands of dollars were collected as a part of this festive event.

CAHEC Foundation teamed up with United Bank and other local businesses to support the Food Shuttle’s Mobile Markets serving rural families in areas such as Rocky Mount, NC. Their team showed up two months in a row to support the distribution, in addition to funding these critical emergency food programs.

Kelly Maicon and her family chose not to exchange Christmas gifts and directed those same funds towards the purchase and creation of Hygiene Kits for the Food Shuttle’s School Pantry program. Far too often, children utilizing School Pantries for food items are also in need of basic supplies like soap, shampoo, and toothpaste.

Publix Super Markets Charities made a generous $65,000 donation to enhance programming in the Food Shuttle’s Child Hunger initiatives and help fund critical sustainable growing practices at the Food Shuttle’s Farm and community gardens.
CULTIVATE MORE THIS YEAR - Be a part of ending hunger all year long

As a CULTIVATOR Monthly Sustaining Donor, you will be recognized as a leading partner in building a just community in which all residents have access to the healthy food, knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to thrive all year long.

Together we can cultivate a community that takes care of community. We will sow seeds that grow solutions that meet not only immediate needs, but also nurture the groundwork for addressing the root causes of hunger, ensuring the health and well-being of all our neighbors in the long term.

Visit www.FoodShuttle.org/Cultivators to learn more and join!

STAY ENGAGED WITH THE FOOD SHUTTLE!

1. Donate and partner with us to improve the health and well-being of our communities.
   FoodShuttle.org/GiveNow

2. Volunteer in-person or virtually with us.
   FoodShuttle.org/Volunteer

3. Sign up for our e-newsletter. Follow us on social media and use our hashtags!
   Facebook: @foodshuttle
   Twitter: @foodshuttle
   Instagram: @foodshuttle
   LinkedIn: @foodshuttle

#FoodShuttle #FeedTeachGrow #HungerisFixable