SECONDBITE
2015-16
ANNUAL REPORT

20 MILLION MEALS AND COUNTING...
SECOND BITE STOPS GOOD FOOD FROM GOING TO WASTE. WE RESCUE EDIBLE NUTRITIOUS FOOD THAT WAS HEADING FOR LANDFILL AND GIVE IT TO PEOPLE IN NEED, FREE OF CHARGE.

FOR US, IT’S SIMPLE: IF IT’S GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT, IT SHOULDN’T GO TO WASTE.
People ask why SecondBite exists and what enables us to do good things. Our purpose is to feed people in need, through rescuing and sourcing nutritious food, but we couldn’t do it without the help of thousands of people around Australia.

I thank all those people who help us in many ways. Thanks to the Volunteers who collect food from supermarkets, growers and markets. Thanks to the Volunteers that pick fresh produce, the people who guide foundations, supermarkets and financially support us.

Coles and its customers deserve special mention as they have deeply embraced SecondBite in communities across Australia - not only providing food and financial support, but fundraising and being a true partner.

Our ambassadors are everywhere supporting us in many ways, from introducing people, promoting our mission, sourcing food to organising fundraising events.

Our Board are always there when we need them, freely giving of their time, ideas and contacts - each helping in their own way. SecondBite is privileged to have such an engaged Board which makes a material difference.

After almost 4 years, our CEO Elaine left us to move to a new role. Under Elaine’s leadership, the organisation continued its extraordinary growth and reach across Australia. Increasing the number of community agencies that we support and the number of disadvantaged individuals and families. Fresh food redistributed increased from 3 million healthy meals in 2011/12, to 16 million healthy meals in 2015/16. Elaine’s passion for influencing positive change to create a more sustainable food system will be missed by us all.

In Jim’s first month, he quickly got to work, spending time with staff, meeting stakeholders and getting to know our operations. His energy is infectious and he is totally committed to improving the lives of those most in need.

The need for SecondBite’s food continues to grow every day, with many agencies on our waiting list. There is virtually unlimited need. All that constrains us is funding. With the help of our partners we strive to provide the most nutritious food available.

IAN SAYS...

The challenge of Food Rescue in Australia is considerable, and we and our partners operating in this sector have much work to do.

I’m encouraged, however, picking up the reins of an organisation with a broad range of committed supporters, a talented and energetic workforce, and an outstanding partner in Coles.

At this point I must acknowledge the great work of my predecessors in delivering an organisation that is in such good shape. The drive and direction that Katy and Elaine brought to SecondBite has created a food rescue operation with a focus on delivery and effectiveness.

As demand for our services continues to accelerate, the key to addressing this problem across the country, will be greater levels of collaboration across all agencies and stakeholders working to feed Australians who need to be fed.

The challenge of food insecurity is one that’s affecting all developed economies across the world. As the gap between rich and poor continues to grow, we are going to have to find a new solution. It would be great if Australia led the way on this, that’s my ambition for SecondBite and the sector generally.

I’m delighted to present the results of our operations, and encourage all of our partners and supporters to join us in the challenge of supporting a dignified existence for all Australians.

JIM SAYS...

“AS THE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR CONTINUES TO GROW, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO FIND A NEW SOLUTION. IT WOULD BE GREAT IF AUSTRALIA LED THE WAY ON THIS. THAT IS MY AMBITION FOR SECONDBITE.”
WE RESCUE EDIBLE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD THAT WAS HEADING FOR LANDFILL AND GIVE IT TO PEOPLE IN NEED, FREE OF CHARGE.
FATHER BOB’S

SecondBite works with organisations across Australia to get food to the people who need it most. Our partners provide community-focused programs that aim to give people doing it tough the support that is right for them.

FRESH FOOD FROM SECONDBITE HELPS FATHER BOB’S PROVIDE “FOOD, FRIENDSHIP AND HOPE TO THE HUNGRY, LONELY AND HOMELESS.”

The Father Bob Maguire Foundation (Father Bob’s) is based in the City of Port Phillip, an area with one of the highest densities of housing commission estates in Melbourne. For people struggling on low or non-existent incomes, a poor diet and being unable to afford enough food to eat, affects their health, mental wellbeing and their ability to get on in life.

SecondBite provides a weekly supply of groceries and fresh produce for use in Father Bob's food relief programs: a restaurant on wheels – nicknamed the ‘HopeMobile’ – and a Community Pantry. Both programs provide a much-needed source of food, friendship and hope for many in the community.

Graham has been volunteering with Father Bob’s and SecondBite for 8 years. He explains how the HopeMobile team use food from SecondBite to run a community program that ‘feeds more than just hunger’.

‘The main idea is simple: we set up ‘outdoor dining rooms’ in public reserves and provide free meals for hungry people. We don’t discriminate, or ask people to sign up to anything, we simply set ourselves up and invite people to join us.

The program is a massive team effort; it wouldn’t work without the commitment and dedication of our volunteers. Our volunteers prepare the food at our warehouse in South Melbourne, before packing it into our HopeMobile, along with tables, chairs, gazebos, cutlery – everything we need to create an outdoor dining room from scratch.

The fruit and veg we get from SecondBite changes every week, so the food we share is always changing; people aren’t just being given the same thing every time. It’s a small detail, but we like to think it makes people feel valued; fresh, home-cooked food is something that many of our friends don’t get to eat very often.

We set the dining area up so that people can sit down and enjoy their food with others. As one of our friends said, we’re ‘feeding more than just hunger’ – it’s about the fundamental human need for food and friendship. Being able to socialise with family or friends is something that many of us take for granted – just having someone to talk to, or ask us how we are, or how our day was.

To use Father Bob’s words, these meals are a way of ‘providing the ‘outsider’ with connection to the community and a sense of belonging. It’s not easy being in a position where you can’t afford enough food for yourself, or your family, or need someone to talk to, so by sharing these meals in a public reserve, it means people can engage with others on their own terms; it’s about respect and dignity.

For many of our friends, the meals are a first step. They come along, get to know the people in our community, meet the volunteers, the outreach staff, build up a sense of connection and then, if they feel comfortable, they can start making use of the Foundation’s support and advocacy services.”

Last year, Father Bob’s served up over 24,000 meals and helped provide more than 7,000 food hampers for low-income families. The Foundation employs only two full time staff and has a team of 250 committed volunteers.
OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

20 MILLION healthy meals for people in need

1,300 Community Partners

290 Corporate Partners

12,000 Individual Donors

24,210 VOLUNTEER HOURS

2,000 Food Donors

10 MILLION KGS OF FRESH FOOD RESCUED

55 Trust & Foundation Partners
WHAT OUR AGENCIES SAY...

People have been eating healthy meals with much more diversity than we could otherwise have provided. They have been trying vegetables they have never eaten before and taking home vegetables that would otherwise simply never enter their diets.

**FOOD NOT BOMBS**

Our participants enjoy the food, for some the best and healthiest meal all week. The sharing of food provides an opportunity to create a wonderful community within our organisation.

**SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS**

SecondBite allows us to provide fresh fruit and vegetables to our customers, to ensure a better balance and healthier options for their diet.

**HANDUP FOOD CARE**

There are no words that can explain how SecondBite has helped us. I guess its in the satisfied faces of individuals at our feeding program that tells the story of Hope, Life & Joy. Without SecondBite we won’t be able to do what we have done for many years. This has changed peoples lives in ways we will never know or understand.

**YOUTH WITH A MISSION**

It has been wonderful being able to provide fresh fruit & veggies as well as bread. We have a lovely older lady that broke into tears one day as she told us that before this program she would go months without a piece of fruit & very little fresh veggies as she just couldn’t afford it.

**TREVALLYN LIFE CHURCH**

Without SecondBite we would still be watching our community suffer without being able to do anything about it. SecondBite has allowed us to implement a food program where it was not previously possible. We are forever grateful.

**BALAKLAVA CHURCH OF CHRIST**

This program has increased our capacity to offer more services to those in need. We can now run food programs to teach healthy low cost cooking and we are hoping to expand our kitchen to include cooking school courses and pre-packed meals to our clients and those in need.

**COMMUNITY LIVING ASSOCIATION**

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**2015-16 ANNUAL SURVEY**

For 2015-2016, 533 responses to our Annual Agencies Survey was a record for SecondBite.

The agencies indicated that SecondBite was doing a great job, with over 90% satisfied overall and over 85% satisfied with the quality of the food. Many agencies gave us very positive feedback, saying:

“Simply this program wouldn’t be viable without the support of SecondBite.”

“We could not afford to offer much at all, either for light meals prepared, or take home parcels without SecondBite.”

We look forward to hearing that we have done even better in 2016-17, and continuing to provide a valuable resource for our partner agencies.
WHY WE DO IT

In Australia, we throw away an unbelievable amount of perfectly edible food every day.

At the same time, a growing number of Australians find themselves struggling to make ends meet.

Two million Australians find themselves unable to afford enough food to feed themselves or their families.

The reasons behind this are complicated, but the bottom line isn't - in short: we throw good food away while people go hungry.

That doesn't make sense.

HOW WE DO IT

SecondBite redistributes surplus fresh food to community food programs around Australia.

Food is donated by farmers, wholesalers, markets, supermarkets, caterers and events. This high-quality surplus food is redistributed to community food programs that support people in need from all walks of life.

We work with over 1,200 community food programs across Australia to redistribute rescued food to those in our community who need it most.

The organisations we work with make a real difference to people's lives, providing food, support, hope and friendship. For as long as we are needed, we will be here.

WITHOUT SECONDBITE WE WOULD STILL BE WATCHING OUR COMMUNITY SUFFER WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. SECONDBITE HAS ALLOWED US TO IMPLEMENT A FOOD PROGRAM WHERE IT WAS NOT PREVIOUSLY POSSIBLE. WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL.
I cannot tell you the number of times we have had people crying in our shop, saying that without this kind of aide they would not have been able to survive. People can be struggling financially for a number of reasons, sometimes it is a generational inability to manage work or finances. For others, it is an unexpected crises in life.

Last week I had an 18 year old man who looked extremely thin asking for food. His mother had died a number of years earlier, he had no family and he was living on the street. We were able to supply immediate help with groceries, meat, dairy and bread to take away.

When organisations like the SecondBite program aide us, we have a greater capacity to aide others and it is a great partnership!

Debbie Kenny - Director
TOGETHER, WE ARE A LITTLE BETTER EVERYDAY

“TOO MANY PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY ARE DISADVANTAGED AND WE KNOW WE CAN PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING TO PROVIDE THEM WITH ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD.

THAT’S WHY WE ARE PROUD THAT TODAY WE HAVE MORE THAN 600 COLES STORES NATIONALLY DONATING SURPLUS FOOD TO SECONDBITE TO REDISTRIBUTE TO PEOPLE IN NEED.

BY WORKING CLOSELY WITH SECONDBITE AND PROVIDING NUTRITIOUS FOOD WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE GO TO WASTE, WE WANT TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH WE SERVE.”

JOHN DURKAN
Managing Director,
Coles

OUR NATIONAL PARTNER - COLES

Coles has partnered with SecondBite since 2011, and has proven to be a pivotal relationship in the changing face of our community food programs.

Together, we are getting a little better every day. With over 600 stores participating nationally on the Coles Community Food Program, this year, we reached a milestone of 15 million kilograms of fresh, surplus food rescued. That’s 30 million nutritious meals donated by Coles, and redistributed by SecondBite to people in need.

Coles continues to actively support people in their local communities, and are ensuring that edible food is destined for empty plates, not landfill.

Providing more than a meal, Coles’ team members continue to go above and beyond, with supermarkets nationally raising $577,000 in July 2016 to support our work.

With almost 200 hours volunteered across many disciplines, from stores to IT, to HR and finance, their people demonstrate a passion for making a difference.

Liquorland, First Choice and Vintage Cellars also ran fundraising campaigns in June and then again in December 2016, generating $750,000 to help get nutritious food to Aussies doing it tough.

Our partnership is built on shared value, a principle that is demonstrated daily across all levels of the organisation.
**SECONDBITE IN SCHOOLS**

‘SecondBite in Schools’ is a unique approach to food rescue and redistribution. It works like this: we deliver fresh, rescued produce to participating schools; students learn how to prepare nutritious meals, which are then frozen and returned to SecondBite as emergency food relief for people in need.

We began working with Montrose Bay High School, Hobart, in 2013. Students were initially tasked with preparing a range of hearty soups. As their confidence grew, they added increasingly sophisticated meals to their menu. Participants also began visiting the SecondBite warehouse, learning about our food rescue operation, and seeing the impact of their work first hand.

By February 2016, the students had prepared 10,000 meals for disadvantaged Tasmanians - an incredible achievement.

“Our students have developed a great sense of pride in producing tasty, nutritious and attractive meals. The program has provided the means for students to build their self-esteem, develop a wide range of skills and be part of a highly functioning team. Students have left the program inspired to make significant changes to their lives.”

The enthusiasm and dedication of everyone involved with the SecondBite in Schools program has enabled us to find another, innovative way of providing healthy, nutritious food to people in need, free of charge.

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**PROFIT & LOSS**

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NATIONAL CORPORATE PARTNER
Coles

NATIONAL SUPPORTER
ISPT Super Property

CORPORATES
Coles


GOVERNMENT
City of Port Phillip | East Gippsland Shire Council | Yarra City Council | Tim Pallas MP | Department of Social Services | Mornington Peninsula Shire | The Council of the City of Sydney | Community Benefit SA | Department of Justice | Department of Premier and Cabinet | Jordan River Services | NSW Environmental Trust | Sustainability Victoria

INDIVIDUALS
Andrew M Lindsay | Benefit SA | Department of Justice | Department of Premier and Cabinet | Jordan River Services | NSW Environmental Trust | Sustainability Victoria

NATIONAL CORPORATE PARTNER
ISPT Super Property

Coles

CO-ORDINATOR
John Simpson

AMBASSADOR

PATRON
The Honourable Linda Dessau AM, Governor of Victoria

NATIONAL AMBASSADORS
Curtis Stone | Matt Preston

AMBASSADORS
Cameron Ling | Frank Costa | The Hon. Robert Doyle | Lord Mayor Of Melbourne | Professor Rob Moodie | Andrew Westcott | Ian Cover | Santo Ciliauro | Michael Short | Nadège Sune | Nick Stock | Tom Carson | Paul Lappin

CO-ORDINATOR
John Simpson

FOOD DONORS

WE THANK YOU
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