

A LEGACY TO LESSEN STRUGGLE

A message from Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Reynolds

Born into a cotton sharecropping community in rural Arkansas, and one of 12 children in a family that struggled mightily to put food on the table, Floyd Jones was not the most obvious choice to become one of the most generous Seattleites of his generation. Yet, that's exactly what Floyd's legacy is. During his lifetime and upon his passing, he helped dozens of local nonprofit organizations—including the largest bequeathed gift to Northwest Harvest in our history. That gift is proving to be transformational.

I knew Floyd from the early 2000s. I recall he was engaged in advocacy work across a broad spectrum of issues that mattered greatly to him. Whether it was rights for women and girls, non-violence, or equipping citizens to be more informed, Floyd backed his passion with quality time, a zeal for learning, financial support, and an infectious warmth.

With the start of the school year, I am reminded of Floyd's retelling of childhood stories that for his siblings, September brought the arrival of the single pair of shoes his family could afford, just in time to go back to school. I felt that Floyd deeply, passionately understood the struggle, the fear, and the punishing emotional toll that hunger leaves. I think that is why he invested in Northwest Harvest's capacity to address hunger in Washington state.

If you would like to learn more about how you can make a lasting impact on the lives of those who experience hunger, see article on Donor Advised Funds on page 4.

"A local preschool class collected money throughout the school year to make summer snack kits for our families. Our families with kids loved this!! The kindness of our community amazes me every day. I love how the adults in our community are teaching our youth at a young age that we need to take care of one another."

Thanks to Floyd, we've been able to add an entire year's worth of milk and eggs to the menu for our guests at SODO Community Market, maintain a handful of schools' weekend backpack programs across the state for children who might not otherwise eat between Friday evening and Monday morning, and finally upgrade an advocacy position to provide expert staffing in support of our crucial policy work. Northwest Harvest will expend the interest earned on Floyd's gift, not the principle—this was Floyd's intent.

I think Floyd would delight in how we are using his amazing gift. Prior to Floyd's passing, I had the opportunity to sit beside him one last time. We talked about the importance of providing healthy food for people who need it today, while also working diligently to address the reasons why members of our community face hunger.

I will forever be grateful for Floyd's foresight to perpetually contribute to making Washington a more equitable home for its residents who struggle with hunger, as an anecdote to the struggle his family endured when he was small.

Best regards,




THANKS TO YOU, HUNGER STOPS HERE.

It's time to kick-off our annual **Hunger Stops Here** campaign, one of our biggest fundraisers of the year! We invite you to join us again and be a part of Hunger Stops Here. Your gift will ensure families in our communities throughout the state have access to nutritious food today and in the coming year. Your support also allows us to continue our frontline efforts to advocate for policies that help eliminate hunger tomorrow.

During last year's campaign, you helped provide a record 5 million-plus meals for our neighbors. This year we once again have a goal of raising the equivalent of over 5 million meals!

Your gift will be matched!

Thanks to a generous friend of Northwest Harvest, your gift made by October 31 will be matched and will have **DOUBLE** the impact! Your gift of \$100 will become \$200 and will provide nearly 1,000 nutritious meals to a hungry neighbor.

To take advantage of this dollar-for-dollar match and help us reach our goal of providing over 5 million meals, please make your donation by October 31.

Please consider inviting your colleagues, family, and friends to join you in making a gift. Together, we **will** cut hunger in half by 2028!

Make your gift today. Give online at **www.northwestharvest.org/hshc**.

Or, send your gift to us in the enclosed postage paid envelope. Be sure to write HSHC on the check so we know to have your gift matched.

Thank you!

Northwest Harvest Board of Directors 2019

*Scott McQuilkin, Chair
Whitworth University*

*Diana Axness, Treasurer
Community Volunteer*

*Cris Hales, Secretary
Tree Top, Inc*

*Rachel Beda, At-large
Wise Patient Internal Medicine PLLC*

*Neal Boling
KHQ-TV*

*Alan Caplan
Community Volunteer*

*Connie Falon
Ascend Financial Group*

*Tim Groves
The Boeing Company*

*Vin Gupta
Institute for Health Metrics and
Evaluation, University of Washington,
Gates Foundation, US Air Force*

*Shamso Issak
Living Well Kent*

*Brandon Pedersen
Alaska Air Group*

*Ken Price
Amazon*

*Mike Regis
Community Volunteer*

*Dwight Rives
Port of Seattle*

*Jan Still
Social Security Administration*



SODO COMMUNITY MARKET OPENS ITS DOORS!

Whether curious about experiencing a “free grocery store” or in need of a fresh turkey sandwich and bottle of water, thousands from Seattle and the surrounding areas have now come through the doors of Northwest Harvest’s SODO Community Market.

Those familiar with the old Cherry Street Food Bank on Seattle’s First Hill probably expected to find a variety of fresh produce, bags of whole grains, dried beans, and white rice. But what few anticipated was the shopper-friendly environment that dominates the experience of coming to SODO. From all the food options listed in multiple languages, a checkout system similar to any other grocery store (minus paying the cashier, of course), to staff and volunteers on the grocery store floor helping

everyone find what they need, it’s obvious this is more than a “food bank”.

“Every bit of this experience is by design,” says Northwest Harvest CEO Thomas Reynolds. “We have intentionally blurred the lines between what many picture a food bank looking and acting like with that of your local neighborhood grocery. We want to create a shopping experience people are looking forward to.”

With the generous support of Amazon, the Joshua Green Foundation, the Nesholm Family Foundation, PACCAR Inc, the Schultz Family Foundation, along with countless other gifts, SODO Community Market is open every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Hours of operation can be found on our website at northwestharvest.org/sodo-community-market. To view a variety of local media coverage on the market, please go to northwestharvest.org/pressmedia.

BE A LASTING PART OF SODO COMMUNITY MARKET!

Since opening our doors to SODO Community Market on June 24, we have served thousands of community members! Filled with fresh produces, whole grains, chicken, milk, and eggs, the response has been amazing.

Opening the market was a significant moment for Northwest Harvest and those that we serve. However, there is still much more work that needs to be done to keep the market’s shelves stocked with nutritious food for our food-insecure neighbors.

One way you can help is by purchasing a personalized brick to be placed in our market courtyard. You can leave a lasting legacy by having a brick inscribed with your name or in tribute to a loved one.

Purchasing a brick helps ensure we have the resources to continue offering healthy food and life-changing programs throughout Washington. Your investment in Northwest Harvest is critical to our sustainability.

Thank you for your generosity and support for our neighbors. To purchase your brick, visit: northwestharvest.org/SODO.



One of the ways you can support our efforts is to become part of the outdoor community courtyard with a personalized brick. Contribution levels are available at \$100, \$250, and \$500.

LISTENING SESSIONS LOOP BACK AROUND

2019 REGIONAL POLICY SUMMITS FOLLOW UP ON FOCUS GROUPS

Since 2007, we've conducted focus groups with food bank guests throughout our state. We gather information and stories about what hunger looks like in these communities, including identifying barriers to accessing nutritious food, quality health care, affordable housing, transportation, child care, and paying the bills. Our findings and policy recommendations are recorded in the annual *Focus on Food Security Report* to tell lawmakers these stories and amplify the voices of those we serve. The Regional Policy Summits (RPS) is a new initiative, intended to follow-up on our focus groups. The focus groups have been a great tool for identifying problems, and now we are holding these summits to better understand those issues and work towards identifying solutions.

We are holding summits this summer in three of the counties we visited last year for focus groups: Pierce County, Grays Harbor, and Spokane. The summits bring together people with lived experiences of hunger and poverty, lawmakers, local food bank staff, advocates, and service providers that work on health care and housing. Central to the summit is the participation of our focus group participants. The summits help us be accountable to these participants: we work in advance to prepare them to

speak directly to the summit audiences about their concerns and to feel comfortable with sharing their ideas for how we can make food access programs and policies more responsive to their needs. The summits provide us better understanding and context for the issues we identified in the focus groups—by talking with a broader, county-wide audience, we are able to assess whether issues are systemic and generate ideas to resolve these issues through legislative action and strengthening programmatic partnerships.

The summits also give Northwest Harvest a chance to introduce ourselves to more people who may not have worked with us before, helping to foster an understanding of Northwest Harvest's work as a food justice organization, drawing connections between our core issues in food access with related issues of housing and poverty, and forming new alliances to diversify our network of concerned stakeholders who can help support our legislative agenda.

At the Pierce County summit, held in July in Puyallup, Peggy from our Orting focus group delivered moving remarks about how our focus group gave her a chance to talk about the lack of affordable housing in her community and the struggles of affording the nutritious food prescribed by her doctor when her food budget is provided by SNAP and the local food bank. Peggy then worked in small group discussions with two state legislators and a community organizer from Faith Action Network, sharing her perspective

on how much people benefit from sharing with each other the information they have about available resources. This led to their brainstorming ideas about developing regional resource and referral centers. The Pierce County summit also identified ideas for assessing food access needs for low-income college students, capital projects to provide storage and food preparation space for homeless populations, and transportation options in food deserts.

Northwest Harvest is sharing notes with summit participants along with an attendee list. We will also compile information and ideas from all three of our summits in a report to be released early next year.

We are grateful to all summit participants for contributing to these critical discussions and lending strength to community collaborations.



Peggy, a participant in our 2018 Orting focus group, shared experiences and engaged in discussion with other attendees at the Pierce County policy summit.

"A client shared that she would be suffering each month without our food pantry that distributes in La Center, WA. Her food stamp [benefits] are only \$21.00 and she experiences from time to time that it does not arrive in a timely manner so she depends on our food pantry for food."

—Lewis River Mobile Food Bank, Clark County

"One client came to the food bank for the first time. While I was showing her around she exclaimed, 'Wow! I've never been to a food bank where you get to choose your own food before. This is great!' This interaction showed that our efforts to improve our shopping experience for our clients are having a positive impact."

—Pike Market Food Bank, King County

"We have had a client on the program for six months. When they started, they were pre-diabetic and in danger of several different health issues. They were poorly nourished and dehydrated. After three months, they were much more mobile and active, and generally all-around healthy. In June, they told us that they were officially out of danger of diabetes and other related health issues."

—PeopleforPeople Meals on Wheels, Yakima County

SPOKANE WELCOMES “DREAM PROJECT” STUDENTS

Through the Dream Project, 11 students biked across the country from New Jersey to Portland, raising money for a New Jersey nonprofit, Elijah’s Promise, that focuses on combatting food insecurity and providing jobs. The group has already raised more than \$40,000.

Biker Alex Hauser spoke to the impact Elijah’s Promise has had on their community: “Elijah’s Promise is a really instrumental nonprofit in Central New Jersey that provides meals every day of the year, and they also have a culinary school for people who need job training, community gardens, which the public can use to get closer to their food, and a bunch of different social services.”

As biker Riley Pint described, “The Dream Project seemed like an amazing way to both challenge myself and connect with

people across the country. Preventing food insecurity is a cause everyone can get behind.”

Instead of sleeping and recovering when they were not biking, the Dream Project group volunteered at local nonprofits within each city they stopped. They wanted to come volunteer at Northwest Harvest’s Spokane Distribution Center, because it aligned with their goal of reducing food insecurity. Riley Pint had heard of Northwest Harvest through a food conference in New York and was excited to become a volunteer. The whole group was excited about traveling to Washington, looking forward to traversing the Columbia River Gorge, seeing the mountains, and as biker Dorothy Lee mentioned, “getting to smell all the pine trees, one of my favorite smells.”

Follow up on the team and their trip at thedreamprojectnj.org.



Above: The team volunteers at Northwest Harvest’s Spokane Distribution Center.
Below: Ready for the next leg of the journey.



“A lady came in the other day who hadn’t been in for a very long time, I’d say at least two years. She brought us a bunch of plastic bags. She gave me a huge hug and told me how much it meant to her that we were there for her and her family for those years when they needed us. She told me that things are better for them now and they don’t need to use the food bank. It’s nice to have people come in to let us know how they’re doing when they stop using the food bank.”

—ROOF, Thurston County

BE SMART ABOUT GIVING: BENEFITS OF A DONOR ADVISED FUND

With the passage of the Trump tax act in December 2017, and with its doubling of the standard deduction, many donors found themselves discontinuing itemization on their tax returns. This impacted the tax savings they had previously experienced through their philanthropic gifts. The new mantra was to combine several years of charitable giving into one year which might make itemizing beneficial for the donor. For many of these donors, establishing a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) may be the best vehicle for merging your philanthropic giving in a way that may also produce tax savings.

One of the strongest features of the DAF is that funding can be done in one year, hopefully creating a charitable deduction,

while the actual disbursements to charities can be spread out over several years. For example, if you received a bump in income, a large bonus, or the sale of a significant asset, you may want to use a part of the excess income to fund a DAF. Another great feature is disbursements from your DAF can identify you as the donor, or if you prefer anonymity, your information can remain confidential. From a record keeping standpoint, using a DAF means you automatically have a listing of all philanthropic giving at year-end. If you want to use your DAF to cover an existing pledge, you’ll want to work closely with the charity and your DAF administrator to ensure you use the right documents.

DAFs vary widely in the initial minimum monetary requirement for establishing an account. While some require as little as \$5,000, others can have an initial requirement of \$100,000 or

more. DAFs are available through mutual funds, investment firms, and community foundations, to name just a few institutional groups. Those requiring larger initial sums often market their expertise in helping the donor make charitable decisions. They may also state they have a better investment return, but one would be wise to compare using a 10 to 15-year return history. From a tax deduction limit, cash gifts to a DAF are deductible up to 60% of adjusted gross income. If using appreciate stock or real property to fund the DAFs, the limit is 30% of AGI. But on the other hand, the donor is escaping any long-term capital gain tax on the contributed stock.

We have an overview of Donor Advised Funds that may be helpful to you if you are considering establishing one. If you would like to receive a copy, please email: AnneK@northwestharvest.org or call 206.390.6094.

EVENTS

WASHINGTON
WESTERN | CENTRAL | EASTERN**CARVE OUT HUNGER**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 6 P.M. - 9 P.M.

SIPS. CARVES. BITES. Join Yakima media personalities and Northwest Harvest in a new venue this year, the amazing 4th Street Theatre in downtown Yakima! Get ready for a fun, harvest-filled evening to help fight hunger! This 6th annual event features a wild celebrity media pumpkin carving contest, a variety of local craft beers, cider, and wine along with delicious food and desserts from four local caterers. Age 21 and over only. \$50 per person in advance or \$55 at the door. Tickets on sale at carveouthunger.eventbrite.com.

KZOK ROCK THE HARVEST

THURSDAY, OCT.

17, 7 A.M. - 6 P.M.:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The 22nd Annual Rock the Harvest campaign returns this October! KZOK listeners are asked to call the KZOK phone bank staffed by the KZOK team and Northwest Harvest volunteers to donate to this annual tradition. Watch for details at northwestharvest.org/events.

**SEATTLE'S LAST WALTZ TRIBUTE**

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

STG Presents Seattle's Last Waltz Tribute at The Neptune Theatre. A Pacific Northwest All-Star Tribute to The Band's "The Last Waltz" featuring local Seattle artists and musicians. All proceeds benefit Northwest Harvest. Tickets available at: thelastwaltztribute.com.

**THANK YOU, EVENT SUPPORTERS!**

We could never list them all, but the hundreds of events held each year throughout our state provide tremendous impact across every community we serve. To everyone who contributes in any way, thank you for making a difference!

"Right as we were about to finish closing the food bank we had two lovely families that were recent immigrants from Colombia stop by. They spoke little English and did not know much about what we did for our clients, and I was able to provide them with resources showing what we do. We scheduled them for an appointment to sign up for the food bank the following week, and when they returned they were pleasantly surprised to be able to sign up and shop for free in the same day. When I gave them a tour of the food bank, the mother and children were incredibly excited when I said they could choose multiple desserts and flowers that day. When our evening check-out volunteer finished shopping with them as we like to do with new clients, they gave both of us hugs and told us how much they appreciated our help."

—Hopelink Shoreline, King County

More events and
up-to-the-minute details at:
northwestharvest.org

GETTING READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Join us for our biggest events of the year—KING 5 Home Team Harvest in Western WA, NBC Right Now Hometown Harvest in Central WA, and KHQ Hometown Harvest in Eastern WA.

Watch for more information and location details at northwestharvest.org.

**KING 5 HOME TEAM HARVEST**

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

Your favorite KING 5 personalities broadcast live from several Puget Sound locations as Northwest Harvest volunteers and staff spend the day collecting food and funds at our largest one-day benefit of the year!

**KHQ HOMETOWN HARVEST FOOD DRIVE**

Northwest Harvest is excited to once again partner with Albertsons and Safeway for this year's event! KHQ broadcasts live from select locations as Spokane stores collect food and funds throughout the day.

NBC RIGHT NOW HOMETOWN HARVEST FOOD DRIVE

Albertsons and Safeway stores in Central Washington will be supporting Northwest Harvest by collecting food and funds throughout the day. Your favorite NBC RIGHT NOW personalities will broadcast live from select Albertsons and Safeway locations in Yakima and Tri-Cities.



P.O. BOX 12272
SEATTLE, WA 98102
800.722.6924

northwestharvest.org
@NWHarvest



MB • 08/19 • CP

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 5587

JUST FOOD:

A CONVERSATION ABOUT FOOD AS A RIGHT IN WASHINGTON

Hunger isn't just the absence of food—it's the absence of justice. When our systems are broken, the most vulnerable in our state suffer the most. Northwest Harvest's food justice movement aligns itself with the primary goals of social justice—demanding equal opportunity and equitable access to basic rights and needs such as nutritious food.

Please join Northwest Harvest at the newly renovated Town Hall Seattle on Monday, November 11 at 7:30pm for a lively discussion on Food as a Right.

An esteemed panel of experts, including US Congresswoman Kim Schrier, join moderator Thomas Reynolds, CEO of Northwest Harvest, for a



360-degree look at food policy—addressing such issues as racism, classism, and the systemic inequalities of opportunity that have led to communities facing chronic poverty and food insecurity.

For more information, please check the Town Hall Seattle calendar at townhallseattle.org.

"We have many clients who ask if there will be fresh food cooked that day. It is always a delight to tell them 'yes' and see their faces light up! It's wonderful how much access to a warm, home cooked meal can truly provide such joy to people."

—Immanuel Community Services, King County

BE MORE LIKE SYLVIE!

We invite you to join us again and be a part of our annual **Hunger Stops Here** campaign, one of our biggest fundraisers of the year.

Your gift will ensure families in our communities throughout the state have access to nutritious food today and in the coming year.

See more on page 1.

