

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

### NORTHWEST HARVEST'S SODO COMMUNITY MARKET

A message from Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Reynolds



In late spring, **Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market** will open to the public—replacing Cherry Street Food Bank. This is a monumental change for Northwest Harvest, for the city of Seattle, and for everyone in the community who has come through our doors over the past 36 years looking for a safe, inviting place to pack up a cart, backpack, or shopping bag with fresh produce, grains, and proteins to take back and share with their families.

The name SODO Community Market emerged from a long list of potential monikers for our new site. Each of our stakeholders, including staff, partners, clients, volunteers, and neighbors were invited to offer input on what the new food bank name should be. We landed on Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market.

I think we all understand the power that words have when attached to names and places. Words help tell a story. They help build trust. They help individuals paint a descriptive picture. Above all, words help define intent and purpose. SODO Community Market.

**SODO** – Northwest Harvest's new home will be a part of the SODO neighborhood of Seattle—located near 4th Avenue South and Holgate Street. It's along several bus lines, near the SODO light rail station—with striking gains in accessibility compared to its predecessor on First Hill.

**Community** – The new space is designed to bring people together. It will be a safe place to share, to find common ground, to support each other, and to pursue the goal of living in a more just and equitable society.

**Market** – The new location will become a gathering space for exchange and interaction. It will be a place to collect a variety of desired provisions such as healthy and nutritious food.



Architect rendering of Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market shopping area.

With the naming of our new site, we are intent on destigmatizing the experience of taking home a bag of nutritious groceries at no cost. We will be working hard to ensure that Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market lives up to the name we have given our new home.

I invite you to come see for yourself when we open. You will find a warm, welcoming, and brightly lit grocery store experience that is relentlessly focused on dignity for everyone who walks through the doors. This is the future of food banking: creating community together; offering a sharing marketplace; while doing away with outdated stigmatizing phrases like "feeding the needy" or "helping the hungry".

Once our doors are open, we look forward to seeing you there.

Best regards,

## JOIN US IN SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF NORTHWEST HARVEST

What comes to mind when you think of the word community? For some, it's developing relationships with neighbors. For others, it's volunteering at a local school, homeless shelter, or church. One thing is certain, it is our deep connection to each other that generates a healthy and vibrant community.

Community is such an important part of our work that we have included it in the name of our new food bank—**Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market**. Though our address is changing, the heart and soul of our community continues to be our volunteers, advocates, donors, and the people we serve. Many of you have been a part of our community for decades. You serve in our sandwich brigade, making sure our neighbors are able to receive food. You donate nutritious food. You make generous financial gifts to support our mission. We are grateful for each of you and all that you do to make our community a better place for all.

**SODO Community Market** opens this spring and includes a new, inviting marketplace experience, as well as administrative offices and community meeting space. As we embark on our new phase of building community, we invite you to join us in this opportunity to deepen relationships and generate a welcomed source of nourishment for all.

Please consider making a gift to Northwest Harvest today. Your contribution supports the construction of SODO Community Market and ensures we can continue providing equitable access to nutritious food for all in Washington.

On behalf of the Northwest Harvest community, thank you.

Please visit [northwestharvest.org/donate](http://northwestharvest.org/donate) to make a contribution or send a check in the attached postage-paid envelope.

## Northwest Harvest Board of Directors 2019

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

In January, Northwest Harvest and Safeway stores unveiled a statewide food drive to collect groceries for local food banks in response to the increasing demand created by the recent government shutdown. Even with the re-opening of the government, an alarming number of Washington residents remained at risk of not being able to meet their most basic of needs.

Safeway and Albertsons stores throughout Washington set up bins for customers to donate non-perishable items for those most impacted by the government shutdown. Food collected was distributed from the grocery stores directly to that community's local food bank or food pantry.

"More than a million people in our state (have been) negatively impacted," said Sara Osborne, Safeway's Public & Government Affairs Director. "Because of this, local food banks—the final safety net—saw dramatic increases in demand."

In addition to all those who missed their regular paychecks, the 1 in 8 Washingtonians that currently count on SNAP to buy nutritious food faced dire uncertainty. Because of the early issuance of February benefits during the shutdown, recipients experienced



Port Townsend Food Bank volunteers Herb Tracy and Kathy Ryan support the drive at their local store.

a longer than normal gap between payments—as much as 41-49 days. This added stress to food banks, as participants needed more help to make their SNAP benefits last longer.

"That's why this partnership between Northwest Harvest and Safeway is so vital," says Thomas Reynolds, Northwest Harvest's CEO. "Together, we have the ability to make a huge difference in our community by coming together and helping our neighbors keep food on their tables during difficult times."

You can keep our neighborhood food bank shelves stocked by contributing at [northwestharvest.org](http://northwestharvest.org).

*"We are partnering with Greenstone Homes and Kendall Yards to get month long bus passes to our clients. Transportation continues to be our clients' largest barrier to escaping poverty. Access allows people to get to medical appointments, job interviews, jobs, social services, school, and social fun."*

—Our Place Community Outreach, Spokane County

*"We recently received Fresh Bucks vouchers for our clients that could be redeemed at Safeway stores, and they were immensely popular! This feels like a relatively clear indication of what we have long suspected and worked toward: people want access to healthy, fresh foods to feed themselves and their families. This resource was a huge boon to those we serve, and we are definitely hoping and working to be able to offer benefits like these again to our clients in the future."*

—North Helpline - Lake City, King County



## ADVOCATES RALLY ONLINE FOR SNOWY HUNGER ACTION DAY

During the legislative session, the Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition hosts Hunger Action Day, a lobby day in Olympia that highlights issues facing hungry families across Washington. On February 11, 2019, Northwest Harvest joined partners and fellow advocates to engage our legislators in the fight to end hunger in Washington.

Due to inclement weather, this year's Hunger Action Day was transformed into an online lobby day, including a digital rally where participants could virtually meet our food champions in the Legislature and hear about our priorities from the lawmakers themselves. We were thrilled to have over 90 people participate in the rally. Six legislators and WSDA Director Derek Sandison also joined us on the call to talk about their legislative priorities. After the rally, advocates reached out directly to their legislators to share their stories and ask for support of our legislative issues.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Hunger Action Day 2019 and advocated for legislation that will help ensure that all Washingtonians have their basic needs met!

It's also not too late to take action! We invite everyone to speak out on hunger issues on Hunger Action Day and throughout the year. Learn more at [northwestharvest.org/hunger-action-day](http://northwestharvest.org/hunger-action-day).

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### 2019 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Northwest Harvest believes that eliminating hunger means fighting its root cause—poverty. To this end, we advocate for public policies that 1) promote access to nutritious food, 2) help low-income people meet their basic needs, and 3) support budgets that restore our basic safety net with fair and sustainable revenue.

Below are a few of the legislative issues Northwest Harvest is tracking and advocating for in the 2019 Session of the Washington State Legislature:

- Expand Access to Fruits & Vegetables for SNAP & WIC Households
- Eliminate the Co-Pay Barrier to School Lunch for Low-Income Students

- Adequate Lunch Time for All Students
- Hunger-Free Students' Bill of Rights
- Provide Stability for WSDA's Farm to School & Farm to Food Pantry Programs

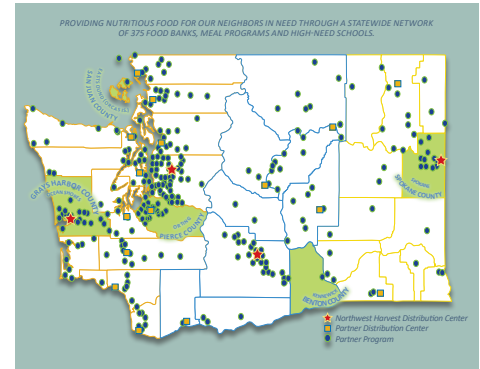
Hunger persists in households that lack sufficient income and resources to make ends meet. If we want to end hunger in Washington, we must ensure that all Washingtonians have their basic needs met. Our support agenda addresses legislation on basic needs issues that affect struggling families, including housing and homelessness, access to affordable health care, and removing barriers to economic stability.

Learn more at [northwestharvest.org/background-on-the-issues](http://northwestharvest.org/background-on-the-issues).

### Focus on Food Security:

*The Stress of Poverty and Toll on Health*

Northwest Harvest's Focus Group Report 2019



### FOCUS ON FOOD SECURITY: *The Stress of Poverty and Toll on Health*

Each year, we cross the state visiting hunger relief programs to hear directly from people who are struggling to provide food for themselves and their families. These compelling, personal stories are compiled into our annual report on the state of hunger in Washington, *Focus on Food Security*. This year, participants shared how the regular stress of making ends meet contributes to an ongoing cycle of endangered health and well-being.

With deep appreciation for the hard work that they do every day on the frontlines of hunger, we would like to thank the staff and volunteers at **Ocean Shores Food Bank, Orting Food Bank, Tri Cities Food Bank, Orcas Island Food Bank, and Northeast Food Pantry** for providing space to accommodate our focus groups.

We are especially grateful to the 68 individuals who participated in our focus groups. You not only shared personal experiences and reflections, but you also gave us important feedback and thoughtful suggestions for how we can work together to make programs, public policies, and public investments be more responsive to your needs. We look forward to continuing to work with you, as together, we mobilize a movement across our state for a more equitable food system.

Read the complete report online at [northwestharvest.org/focus-on-food-security](http://northwestharvest.org/focus-on-food-security).

## YOUR MONTHLY GIFT TO NORTHWEST HARVEST

A great way to support Northwest Harvest is by becoming a recurring donor. Your monthly or quarterly gift is an easy way to plan your yearly giving and spread it out over 12 months. Another benefit is that you can stop or modify your gift at any time. Your gift will be used to provide healthy food to all in our community who are hungry. If you'd like, you can also choose to direct

your recurring gift to purchasing food for Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market.

To start your gift, simply visit [northwestharvest.com/donate](http://northwestharvest.com/donate) and select the *Recurring* giving option, or call our Development Team at 206.923.7480.

Your monthly gift of \$20 helps provide 5 nutritious meals a day—every day of the year—at Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market and throughout our network of partners.

*"One family came in that we had not seen in a while and we got chatting with them and heard some amazing news that they were no longer living on the streets. They now have a car, both have jobs and are working and able to afford their very own apartment. This is a family that has been living in and out of shelters for the last six years. They told us with the help of the food bank they were able to become stable, fed, and more so able to take care of themselves. They told us they wanted to work in the food industry because of the help from the food bank. They someday want to work their way up to owning their own restaurant because of the stability that the Hopelink food program has given to them."*

—Hopelink Redmond, King County



Architect rendering of Northwest Harvest's SODO Community Market storefront.

## BEQUEST GIVING AT NORTHWEST HARVEST

Current and bequest gifts are the backbone of support at Northwest Harvest, ensuring we can serve our statewide network of 375 partner programs with nutritious food. This past year we've experienced the largest level ever of bequest gifts. These bequests ranged from several thousand dollars up to the \$6 million endowment gift by long-time donor Floyd Jones.

How donors choose to fund their current giving and bequests provides clues to how giving is evolving. Here, we provide an overview of trends:

### CURRENT YEAR GIVING

Cash and stock gifts continue to be favorites for current year giving. But

for those who have reached 70 ½ years of age and have a Traditional IRA, there are tax savings to be had using the IRA Charitable Rollover. At 70 ½ you face an annual Required Minimum Distribution which adds to your taxable income. The IRA charitable rollover allows taxpayers age 70 ½ or older to make tax-free charitable gifts from these accounts to eligible charities, such as Northwest Harvest.

### BEQUESTS

Most bequests have come through wills or trusts. But increasingly, for income tax savings, Traditional IRA's are a favorite of savvy donors for legacy giving. By naming Northwest Harvest as a percentage beneficiary of a Traditional IRA, the donor ensures that we will benefit from an income tax-free gift from your

estate. Left to an heir, that same gift would be taxable to the heir as income.

### ENDOWMENTS

While almost all bequests are unrestricted and used immediately in support of our statewide food banks and healthy meal distributions, the Floyd and Dolores Jones Endowment gift of \$6 million led us to established guidelines for a Northwest Harvest Endowment.

We invite you to learn more at [northwestharvest.org/planned-giving](http://northwestharvest.org/planned-giving).

If you have named Northwest Harvest in your estate plans or to get additional information about legacy gifts, please contact Anne S. Knapp, Northwest Harvest's Senior Planned Giving Officer, at 206.390.6094 or [annek@northwestharvest.org](mailto:annek@northwestharvest.org).



## EVENTS

WASHINGTON  
WESTERN | CENTRAL | EASTERNMore events and  
up-to-the-minute details at:  
[northwestharvest.org](http://northwestharvest.org)KING 5  
KONNECTED

TUESDAY, APR. 23



Join KING 5 for

one exciting evening to get connected to nonprofits and individuals who make the Pacific Northwest the unique region that it is. This is your chance to get to know these organizations in an intimate setting with the singular goal to leave the evening feeling informed, inspired, and motivated to take action in a way that is meaningful to you. Watch for details and ticket sales at [northwestharvest.org/events](http://northwestharvest.org/events).



KING 5 Konekted 2018, courtesy  
KING 5 Evening.

FORD FEEDS KIDS  
PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

TUESDAY, APR 30



Ford auto dealers across WA partner with Northwest Harvest and your local food bank in the Ford Feeds Kids Peanut Butter Drive. Peanut butter is a highly desirable staple for food banks, and we never have enough! Throughout May, local Ford stores are collecting peanut butter to help provide meals to kids during the summer. Mariners' fans attending the Apr. 30 matchup versus the Cubs can donate at T-Mobile Park before the 7:10 p.m. game. Watch for details at [northwestharvest.org/events](http://northwestharvest.org/events).

*"Even though we do not meet the children who receive bags of food for their backpacks, we hear from school bus drivers and teachers that the children are eager to check their bags to see what 'goodies' they are bringing home."*

—NMCCC Food for Kids,  
Mason County

GIVEBIG  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

GiveBIG (powered by 501 Commons) returns on May 8th for a 24-hour display of community and generosity. When we all give together, we GiveBIG!

Keep an eye on your inbox for more information about having your gift matched as we get closer to this community-building event.

I give.

You give.

We give, together.

POWERED BY  
501 COMMONSMAY 8  
[givebig2019.org](http://givebig2019.org)

## 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!

## KIMA KIDS FOR CANS - YAKIMA

Each year the KIMA Kids for Cans school food drive challenge provides food to thousands of families across the Yakima area. This year 21 Yakima-area schools collected enough food and funds to provide 35,911 meals for our neighbors in need! For the third year in a row, **Christ the Teacher Catholic**

School won the challenge with an average of 51.9 pounds collected per student. They will be able to keep the traveling KIMA Kids for Cans trophy for another year.

Congratulations to CTCS! And a big thank you to all the participating schools and our sponsor KIMA-TV!

*"We had a client come in saying just how much she appreciated the food bank, because she was working one job, and everything was going well until her car died. She had to take on a second job to pay for a new car, which cut her SNAP benefits to \$50 a month. She could not financially stay afloat without the food she gets from (the) food bank. The client was a single mother of three and not able to afford food for her children without Hopelink."*

—Hopelink Redmond, King County



## NORTHWEST HARVEST VOLUNTEER HONORED WITH MIKE SHANAHAN SERVICE AWARD

Northwest Harvest is very excited to learn that one of our dedicated volunteers has been awarded the Mike Shanahan Service Award for 2019. The Mike Shanahan award is presented by Rotary First Harvest for outstanding public service in hunger relief to the community.

This year's winner is Margo Bell. As a 10-year veteran of making sandwiches at Cherry Street Food Bank, Ms. Bell is being recognized for her energy, dedication, and commitment to helping those in need.

In addition to serving those who come to Northwest Harvest for a lunch and nutritious food for their families, Ms. Bell dedicates her skills and time to building villages for International Habitat for Humanity, is a proud volunteer for the Humane Society, and is a steady presence at several other

local initiatives dear to her heart.

According to those she works with at Northwest Harvest's Sandwich Brigade, the greatest attribute Ms. Bell possesses is an amazing and caring heart. Northwest Harvest—as well as all the organizations that Margo Bell is a part of—is incredibly lucky to have her service, her compassion, and her desire to make life better for those who are in need of support.

On behalf of Northwest Harvest and all those who benefit from Margo's "amazing and caring heart"—we thank and congratulate her on this most-deserved honor. Northwest Harvest would also like to thank Rotary First Harvest for both supporting our mission as well as acknowledging those who make our organization a special place for volunteering.

*"We at Children's are seeing significant changes in patient's rate of infections and in the number of days they are staying in the hospital. Families whose food security has improved—the patients in those families are getting fewer infections and spending much less time at the hospital or avoiding hospital admissions altogether. Three families have even gone from food insecure to food secure."*

—Seattle Children's, King County