Feeding Loudoun's Hungry
A FRESH PERSPECTIVE
Celebrating 25 years of feeding Loudoun’s hungry

The Loudoun Department of Social Services met with local churches to present an idea for a central food distribution center.

From that meeting a core group of dedicated volunteers was formed and in the coming months, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit was created.

A space was donated and food service distribution began in November.

1991

1995: Hired the first paid Executive Director.

2000: Became a Feeding America Agency in partnership with Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Gave LHR the ability to distribute USDA foods to people in need and acquired extremely discounted foods.

1996

2005: Began partnership with Loudoun County Transitional Housing to provide up to 12 weeks of food for families/individuals transitioning from the shelter to permanent housing.

2001


Awards

2011, 2016
Volunteers are the heart of Loudoun Hunger Relief. From school children to retirees and everyone in between, LHR volunteers make our pantry work by their donation of time, talent and treasures.

LHR is deeply grateful to all the volunteers who lend a hand in our pantry and warehouse. We couldn’t operate without you.

- 340 volunteers contributed 11,482 hours of service with a dollar value of $224,135.
- Volunteer service hours equal six full-time staff, increasing our staff capacity by 60%.

AWARDS

2011

- Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce 2009 & 2014 Nonprofit of the Year & Finalist 2013
- Leesburg Today 2009 - 2016 Readers Choice Nonprofit of The Year
- Loudoun Times Mirror 2015 Nonprofit of The Year
- Loudoun Now 2016 Favorite Nonprofit

2011: Rented warehouse space behind Rite Aid for additional storage.

2013: Established partnership with Loudoun Animal Services and the Humane Society to provide food for pets through the pet pantry located at LIR. In FY15, we distributed 2511 dog and cat food kits.

2015: Grantee of Northern Virginia Health Foundation to partner with Healthworks for Northern Virginia, Loudoun Health Department, and Loudoun Pediatric Obesity Coalition to create a vegetable prescription program targeting pediatric obesity.

2015: Partnered with local livestock farmers to accept unusable, expired food to feed their livestock. In turn, the farmers donate back to the pantry, effectively reducing our food waste.

The Board of Directors, after a thorough and thoughtful process, has voted to change the name Loudoun Interfaith Relief to Loudoun Hunger Relief.

We believe our new name speaks our mission and our mission remains the same:

To feed the hungry in Loudoun County.
LOUDOUN HUNGER RELIEF—The name speaks the mission and the mission remains the same.

For the past 25 years, Loudoun Interfaith Relief has helped thousands of Loudoun residents by providing food in their times of need. As we look back over a quarter century of service, we honor those volunteers who came before us with a vision and mission to end local hunger.

In 25 years, we’ve never turned away a family who needed food; our shelves have never been bare. The Loudoun community has always ensured that the pantry could meet the need. Now, we want to tell you about an exciting new time in the history of the organization.

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The board and staff leadership of Loudoun’s largest food pantry have recently completed an extensive strategic planning process. We identified gaps in our outreach to our community, as well as ways we might do better to serve our neighbors in need. We are striving to do more for those we serve like making healthier food (produce, low sodium and high fiber options) more available at the pantry. In collaboration with our fellow nonprofits, we’ve introduced nutrition education, financial literacy and other learning opportunities while brainstorming innovative ways to deliver our services to those most vulnerable.

With our feet firmly rooted in our successful history, we are growing and looking forward to the future. We envision a community where everyone has access to sufficient, nutritious food, enough to support the health and well-being of themselves and their families.

Food, however humble, has the power to transform lives. We know that almost 15,000 Loudoun residents are at risk of hunger in Loudoun County. There are many families living in the gap – income ineligible for nutrition programs, yet not making ends meet. We are here to fill the gap. No one should be forced to choose between medicine, rent, heat or food. Food is more than the difference between an empty plate and a full stomach. Having groceries in the refrigerator can provide a small measure of certainty when there is none. There’s no reason anyone should go hungry in one of our nation’s most prosperous counties.

Together, we will continue making sure all of our neighbors have enough to eat for the next 25 years and beyond. •

Thank you for all you do to make a difference.
**Loudoun Hunger Relief**

In this 25th Anniversary Year, we continue to stand strong as a resource for our neighbors in need. And we are reaching beyond emergency food distribution to healthy food distribution. Our new strategic plan focuses on key needs in the community and crucial aspects of our operations that meet those needs.

Some findings and issues:
- People new to Loudoun County don’t know who we are and what we do.
- People who live in neighborhoods in Loudoun at highest risk for poverty often don’t know we exist, or don’t have the transportation to get to us.
- Research clearly shows the connection between the kind of calorie dense, nutrient poor food we tend to have on our shelves and high rates of obesity, diabetes, and hypertension.

This has been an important process, undertaken with great seriousness. Through it all, your support has meant everything. Your gifts of time, food, money, wisdom and compassion reach through us directly to those who need you. Each time a family receives food, they also receive the embrace of a community that cares. You are the heart and soul of Loudoun Hunger Relief and we look forward to continuing this journey by your side.

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**The Solution**

**S.E.E.D.**

**SUPPLY**
Improve community health by improving food quality with fresh, nutritious options. We are focused on providing more fresh produce, and foods lower in sugar, sodium and high in fiber.

**EDUCATION**
Improve community health and well-being by providing educational opportunities. We are partnering with fellow non-profits and community organizations to provide classes on nutrition, cooking, shopping economically, financial literacy, job search tactics, stress reduction, diabetes management and more.

**EMPOWERMENT**
Embrace our fellow human beings and value the dignity of each person. We’re taking steps to provide an even more positive pantry experience, and doing more to connect people with other community resources they might need.

**DELIVERY**
Make it easier to find the pantry. Deliver our services efficiently, with dignity. Go out into the community with food and information about services. This is the reason for the name change, pure and simple. People who need us or want to help us should be able to find us. We’ve already begun to do more community outreach with our “pop-up pantry” program. Even more exciting changes will happen in this arena—stay tuned!
**Produce for Better Health**
Through a grant from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, we have procured a dedicated walk-in refrigerator for produce, increasing our ability to accept and distribute fresh items.

**Nutrition & Cooking Education**
Our non-profit partner Loudoun Veg provides a six week cooking class series at the pantry, complete with take-home crock pots. Cooking Matters: How to Stretch the Budget and Buy Healthy Foods - this class is offered in partnership with Walmart and Share Our Strength.

**Stress Reduction & Wellness Classes**
In partnership with our non-profit partner Five Stones Institute, and Loudoun Veg, LHR offers stress reduction, yoga for relaxation, and mindfulness classes.

**Louder Pet Pantry**
LHR distributes pet food for families with cats and dogs in partnership with the Humane Society of Loudoun County, and Loudoun County Animal Services to help people feed their pets while they move through a financial crisis.

**Weekend Support for At-Risk School Children**
LHR partners with the Loudoun Education Foundation Backpack Coalition and Loudoun County Public Schools to provide food to children on the weekends.

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**Promoting Nutrition & Partner Collaborations**

**After-School Snack Program**
With the Town of Leesburg’s ROCK program, and the Loudoun County Homework Club, healthy snacks are provided to children after school. The snacks come from the Loudoun County Public Schools Food Recovery Program.

**Job Search Assistance**
LHR’s non-profit partner, Crossroads Jobs, holds a bi-monthly job training program at the pantry.

**Sharing Our Strength**
As Loudoun’s largest pantry, LHR regularly provides food supplies and support to several other smaller pantries in Loudoun as well as Loudoun Emergency Homeless Shelter, Loudoun County Drop-In Shelter, Transitional Housing Program and Loudoun Abused Women’s Shelter. LHR also provides emergency food to the Town of Leesburg’s Police Department and the Loudoun County Sheriff’s Department.
Providing Food Directly

**EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION**
LHR’s primary service provides enough food for three meals a day for three days for each family member. Families can access this service twice a month.

**EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM AND HOMELESS ADULTS**
LHR offers extra support for those in dire situations. We provide food weekly to those in crisis. We also can provide food daily for the homeless, and we work hard to encourage people to go into the shelter.

**MOVING IN TO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**
In partnership with the County of Loudoun Homeless Shelter, when a family moves out of the shelter and into permanent supportive housing, LHR stocks their pantry and provides 12 weeks of food support.

**HOME DELIVERED GROCERIES**
In partnership with Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers, LHR provides grocery deliveries to more than 50 homebound seniors and disabled persons in Loudoun twice each month.

**PRODUCE GLEANING & DONATIONS**
In partnership with Feed Loudoun-Plant a Row, Loudoun Homegrown Markets Cooperative and backyard gardeners throughout Loudoun, produce is being donated from farms, gardens and farmers markets.

**Children’s Summer Breakfast Program**
In partnership with the Town of Leesburg ROCK program, LHR piloted a program to deliver healthy, fresh breakfasts to children in at-risk neighborhoods. Over 600 breakfasts were served!

**Pop-Up Pantries**
LHR piloted a “pop-up pantry” program that takes fresh produce and frozen goods to lower income neighborhoods. We have found that many people were not aware of our programs. People also have trouble getting transportation to the pantry. The pop-ups were well received!
Congressman Frank R. Wolf served 17 terms in Congress (1981 to 2015), representing Virginia’s 10th District and has also been a leader on fighting hunger in the U.S. and abroad, working tirelessly with food banks and food pantries across our District.

He regularly encouraged businesses, schools and civic groups to hold food drives and was the force behind the creation of the Feds Feed Families food drive that has collected more than 57.2 million pounds of food from federal workers since 2009.

Wolf was successful in having language included in the FY 2012 Agriculture spending bill to expand the Good Samaritan Law, allowing schools to give excess food to local food banks, pantries and shelters without fear of being sued. In Loudoun, we and other pantries benefit from this creative recovery partnership.

A 2014 omnibus appropriations bill created a $1 million national commission on domestic hunger via an amendment from Representative Frank Wolf. The purpose of the Hunger commission was to provide policy recommendations and to develop “innovative recommendations to encourage public-private partnerships, faith-based sector engagement, and community initiatives to reduce the need for government nutrition assistance programs, while protecting the safety net for the most vulnerable members of society.”

In addition to the formation of the commission, he personally wrote to every governor in the country asking for their help. He suggested that every governor should have an aide devoted to nothing but hunger and should establish a website so that hungry people would know where they could go for help.

The National Commission on Hunger released its report in January of this year, titled “Freedom from Hunger: An Achievable Goal for the United States of America.” The commission’s report represents the first time in decades there has been focused, bipartisan attention on policy solutions for ending hunger. The legislation mentioned are merely highlights of Mr. Wolf’s long and honorable career.

We are grateful to Congressman Frank Wolf for his longstanding leadership in the national and local fight against hunger and his friendship to our pantry.
For every $1 donated, 95 cents supports LHR’s hunger relief programs

Your dollar goes even further when you support Loudoun Hunger Relief.

LHR is able to accomplish this remarkable feat by the tremendous amount of food donated, the incredible support of volunteer time, and the ability to purchase food in bulk for a fraction of the cost one would pay at the grocery store.

**LOUDOUN HUNGER RELIEF**

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Michelle Rosati
HOLLAND & KNIGHT

* Jennifer Montgomery - Executive Director

**Financials**

FY JUNE 30, 2016
(Audited)

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<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>TOTAL NET ASSETS*</th>
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<td>Donated Food and In-kind Contributions</td>
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<td>Private Contributions Including Events</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL NET ASSETS*</td>
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*This figure includes the value of food on hand as of June 30, 2016. The Board of Directors has designated $465,000 in net assets and related cash balances for specific future obligations as noted in the audited financial statements. Complete audited financial statements are online at www.loudounhunger.org or by request.

LHR FUNDING SOURCES

- **INDIVIDUALS** - 23%
- **CORPORATIONS & SMALL BUSINESSES** - 55%
- **FOUNDATIONS** - 13.8%
- **GOVERNMENT** - 2.9%
- **FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS** - 5.1%

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Jimmy, a retired life-long Loudouner, picked up the phone one Monday morning last year to call to say that he had not eaten since the previous Wednesday. His last meal had been a boiled egg and hot water. He had no food and no means of getting any; he didn’t even have a tea bag.

Frankly, we all wondered how Jimmy had the strength and presence of mind to make the call.

Of course, we had food delivered to him that day in partnership with Loudoun Volunteer Caregivers, and he is now on the regular delivery rotation along with more than 50 other Loudoun seniors and homebound people.

Jimmy’s plight had us in tears - and we hear our share of hard things. Thankfully, LHR and its partners were there, and Jimmy is doing much better.

This is how you help your neighbors.
11,000
people were nourished by the pantry

1,000,000
meals worth of food were distributed this year

1.2 million
pounds of food was distributed

55
households comprised of homebound seniors or persons with disabilities received grocery deliveries twice a month

109
people attended nutrition, financial literacy and stress management classes

16
non-profit and government partners were assisted with food from the pantry

78,238
pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables were distributed

616
children received summer breakfasts in their Leesburg neighborhood
OUR MISSION
To feed the hungry in Loudoun County