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News from South Plains Food Bank

www.spfb.org

In the midst of so much pain and despair...

A ray of hope for our community

My name is Tommy, and I'm grateful in so many ways for the South Plains Food Bank. I own a recycling plant here in Anton, and I'm blessed to have a good business. But for most of the people in our town, life is not so good. In fact, sometimes I wonder if there's much hope for us as a community. A faltering economy has hit us hard. Jobs are hard to come by. Not long ago our only grocery store closed its doors. That's when I knew we had to do something to help provide food for our friends and neighbors. And that's when I was sure the South Plains Food Bank would come to our assistance.

I'm happy to say the Food Bank now delivers food to Anton on the second Wednesday of each month. It's good food. Nutritious food — and for many of our neighbors, it's lifesaving food. When I see a hungry child it brings tears to my eyes. When a young father comes up to me saying he can't find a job to support his family I do my best to understand his pain. I know 98 percent of the people we're helping, and it hurts me to see any of them suffer. *But it also gives me great joy to know we can do something to help put food on their tables.*

"Please accept the thanks of the people of Anton for the food you put on their tables."



Thank you for your donations and acts of kindness

I also want to say a word of thanks to you who donate food, money and generous acts of service to the Food Bank. Because of your generosity, the folks here in Anton now see a ray of hope. More mothers and fathers are able to feed their families. Seniors are grateful

they don't have to go hungry. Many of the elderly are unable to pick up the boxes themselves, so it's a special privilege for me to deliver food to their homes. I also keep a few food boxes at my house, just

in case there's a food emergency for one of our families. I want you to know the people in Anton are grateful beyond words to the Food Bank and to you for caring so much. I consider it a privilege to be able to do something for our neighbors.

"I know 98% of the people we're helping, and it hurts me to see any of them suffer. But it also gives me great joy to know we can do something to help put food on their tables."

—Tommy



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encouraging

Words from David



David Weaver, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

When he came into my office, the man told me how much he appreciated the food the Food Bank had given him a few months back. Then he said, "I have a repair shop in town and business is pretty good right now. So I decided to get out of my chair and come to the Food Bank to volunteer a few hours to help people in need. After all, you helped me. It was time I returned the favor."

Not long after, I met a mom who had been spending long days with her son in the hospital. She said, "When I came home from the hospital, there was nothing in the cupboard. I just don't know what we would have done without the Food Bank and the kindness of donors who give their time and money to help put food on our table."

You provide a ray of hope in darkened places

Because of your kindness, good things keep happening at the South Plains Food Bank every day. When there is darkness in people's lives, you provide a *glimmer* of hope. And sometimes that simple glimmer is all that's needed to give a family or a senior the confidence they need

to make it through another day.

"Many of you have told me, 'David, I came to the Food Bank to be of help to others, but in the process... I began to see people in need in a different light.'"

And when you come to volunteer your time, you become a lantern of that hope. Thank you for your gifts of money and service. Thank you for your compassion and concern for your neighbors. Without your support there would be no Food Bank...and if there were no Food Bank our communities would suffer even greater pain.

If you've come by to volunteer, you already know the joy of getting involved in the lives of others. Many of you have told me, "David, I came to the Food Bank to be of help to others.

But in the process of volunteering, something happened to me. *I changed...*and I began to see people in need in a different light."

School is about to start, and our focus will again be on providing food for our children who otherwise might go hungry. Thank you for thinking of needy boys and girls...and helping to provide food where it's needed most.

Thank you for being one who cares,

David Weaver, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

U CAN SHARE!

Our 28th annual U Can Share Food Drive will be held from December 5–10 at the United Supermarket at 82nd and Frankford Ave. This special community-wide event helps us collect both food and funds to provide 5,000 Christmas food boxes and more during the upcoming holiday season. Please stop by to drop off a donation of food or money. For more information, call the South Plains Food Bank at (806) 763-3003.

Food items needed include:

- Chili
- Canned or dry soup
- Tuna or Hamburger Helper
- Dry box products
- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Canned juice
- Canned tuna or meat
- Macaroni dinners
- Rice and pasta
- Peanut butter and jelly/jam
- Crackers
- Cereal—cold or hot
- Corn meal
- Flour and sugar
- Powdered milk
- No-salt, low sodium or "light" foods
- Fruit packed in its own juice

Thank you for the food...

And for helping us become healthy and strong

My name is Teairah. One of the best things in my life is being able to come to the Kids Café here at the Boys & Girls Club in Lubbock. This is a great place to talk with my friends, have fun and be able to eat good food.

"I feel I have the whole world in front of me, and I'm looking forward to a great life. I know I can do anything if I just put my mind to it."

I'm really thankful for the South Plains Food Bank and for all you nice people who do so much for us. I know you donate good food and lots of money to the Food Bank. Thank you very much.

Someday I want be

a singer, or maybe even a professional basketball player. Here at the Boys & Girls Club I'm learning how to be a good team player. One thing for sure: you've got to pass the ball, and not keep it to yourself. I think you can learn a lot about life from

playing sports. One of the most important things is *not to be selfish*. I think this is one of the most important rules of life, don't you?

In my family we're all positive about life

I'm a positive person, and so is my whole family. When people are sad, we try to cheer them up. I'm glad I'm growing up to be a kind person. If new kids come in and they don't have a friend, I do my best to help them fit in. It feels great to be able to make other kids feel welcome.

I feel I have the whole world in front of me, and I'm looking forward to a great life. I know I can do anything if I just put my mind to it. I have lots of goals, and I plan to achieve them all. Oh, I also study here...and the subjects I like most are science and reading. Thank you for helping us with so much good food. It's making us healthy and strong. I think in the days ahead you'll really be proud of us.

—Your friend, Teairah

"My friends and I appreciate all the food you give to us. Thank you!"



VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS



If you'd like to come help out at the Food Bank, our 2011 workdays are as follows:

Saturday Warehouse Work Days:

September 10 • 9:00 am–12:00 pm

October 1 • 9:00 am–12:00 pm

November 5, 12, & 19 • 9:00 am–12:00 pm

December 3 & 10 • 9:00 am–12:00 pm

December 17 • 9:00 am–3:00 pm

In November and December we work most Saturdays preparing for our Christmas box distribution. Groups desiring to work on Saturday workdays should register with Berry Massey, Volunteer Coordinator, (806)763-3003 (email: volunteer@spfb.org) by Thursday one week before the week you are going to work.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

“I just wanted to help people”

Seven-year-old Morgan Cordle is a giving child. But The North Ridge Elementary student’s latest act of kindness even caught her mom Michelle by surprise.

Morgan had been saving every penny so that she could buy a Barbie Car. So it was a surprise when her mother learned from the school principal that Morgan had cleared out her piggy bank, packed it up in a paper sack, and donated it to her school’s canned food drive! It was a little over \$25—enough to provide 125 meals.

Seeing her gift in action

Morgan, Michelle, and Morgan’s little brother Clay recently toured the Food Bank warehouse, orchard, and farm so Morgan could see how her money was impacting people. Michelle has traveled

extensively and has seen poverty throughout the world, so she hopes to instill in her children that they are fortunate. “I want to try to guide them to be socially responsible,” said Michelle.



Morgan witnesses her generosity in action at the Food Bank’s farm.

It might be awhile before Morgan gives the South Plains Food Bank more of her pennies, but she already has her eye on other ways she can continue to give back. She and her family participated in the Memorial Day Fun Run and donated a sack of groceries as their entry fee. “We are so proud of Morgan,” said Michelle, who already has plans to bring the kids back to the Food Bank to volunteer after their summer vacation.

Morgan, pictured with her brother Clay, said “I just wanted to help people,” about her choice of helping feed people in her community.

Our Mission:

The South Plains Food Bank, Inc. is a humanitarian resource responsible for securing, growing, processing, and distributing food to charitable organizations and persons in need. We also strive to provide opportunities for persons to break out of the poverty cycle.



MY FALL GIFT

YES, David. You can count on my continued support for our South Plains neighbors who are in need of food.

Here is my gift of: \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$_____

I commit to a monthly gift of \$_____. My first gift is enclosed.

Please charge my gift on my credit card: VISA MC AMEX

NAME _____

CARD NUMBER _____ SECURITY # _____

ADDRESS _____

SIGNATURE _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

My e-mail address is: _____@_____

Please make your check payable to:

South Plains Food Bank

4612 Locust Avenue, Lubbock, TX 79404-3840

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To charge your gift by phone, please call (806) 763-3003.

It’s easy! Give online at www.spfb.org



YOUR GIFTS CHANGE LIVES!

Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. We will send a receipt for your records.