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CONNECT WITH US!
Happy holidays from our ‘ohana to yours

The holidays are upon us, and now is a good time to reflect back on our year together. Here’s why we are so optimistic about 2020.

2019 was a year of change, evolution and significant growth for Hawaii Foodbank. We expanded our reach in several rich and meaningful ways.

During the summer, our Feeding Our Future summer lunch program served meals to more than 8,200 hungry keiki. Additionally, our Food 4 Keiki School Pantry program experienced significant growth in 2019. After launching in May 2018 at Waimanalo Elementary and Intermediate School, the program has grown to 16 schools throughout O’ahu and Kaua‘i. This includes our first high school, Kaua‘i High School, as well as a food pantry on the campus at Kaua‘i Community College.

We worked diligently to build relationships and earn the trust of new partners – increasing our strategic focus on addressing child hunger in Hawaii. We will continue to find effective ways to feed more keiki, students and families in need. Because of this commitment, we have even earned the support of the Department of Education this school year. Together, we look forward to expanding to even more schools in 2020.

In addition to our core work of gathering and distributing food, our focus on public policy and advocacy will also continue to grow. We will continue to focus on important issues that pertain to our role as an advocate and voice for our hungry ‘ohana. We are already working with the Hawai‘i Farm Bureau, Feeding America and other local stakeholders to help create policies that will better support our local farmers. We believe providing incentives will not only increase their yields, but it will also help our communities become more self-sustainable.

These milestones, accomplishments and opportunities are only possible through the generous support and trust of our community. As 2020 approaches, we look forward to continuing this work together. Warmest wishes for a happy, safe and healthy holiday season.

With warmth and aloha,

Ron Mizutani, President and CEO
Commitment to accountability
Hawaii Foodbank earns multiple, national distinctions

For the 10th consecutive year, Hawaii Foodbank has attained Charity Navigator's coveted four star rating for demonstrating strong financial health, accountability and transparency.

Charity Navigator, the nation’s largest independent charity evaluator, evaluates 1.5 million charities in the United States. Only two percent have received at least 10 consecutive four star evaluations.

“Attaining a four star rating means Hawaii Foodbank exceeds industry standards,” said Ron Mizutani, president and CEO. “To receive this exceptional designation from Charity Navigator for 10 consecutive years demonstrates Hawaii Foodbank’s consistent trustworthiness to the public.”

Charity Navigator, a nonprofit itself, is a national service that only evaluates organizations that are granted tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and file a Form 990.

“This did not happen by chance,” Mizutani said. “This is the result of extremely hard work by our compassionate and dedicated staff on O‘ahu and Kaua‘i. We also work closely with The Food Basket on Hawaii Island and Maui Food Bank. Together, we form a strong network committed to serving those with needs, so we can end hunger in Hawaii.”

Girl Scouts of Hawai‘i Troop 293
During the fall, the Girl Scouts of Hawai‘i Troop 293 held a community food drive and collected 207 pounds of food. After they dropped off their donations at the O‘ahu warehouse, the girls visited with staff and took a tour to learn more about Hawaii Foodbank’s mission. They were so inspired that they came back for "s’more" service - volunteering alongside parents and group leaders during September’s Senior Food Box packing.

HGEA AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO Kaua‘i Island Division
The Kaua‘i Island Division of HGEA AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO held a community food drive during their annual Kaua‘i Labor Day Picnic. The event gathered 759 pounds of food, including large quantities of canned meat and vegetables. Gerald Ako, division chief, came by the Kaua‘i warehouse to drop off the event's donations and share the organization's generosity.
Hunger on campus

Hawaii Foodbank Kaua’i launches School Pantry to serve KCC students

Continuing to expand its reach on the Garden Island, Hawaii Foodbank Kaua’i launched a new School Pantry at Kaua’i Community College (KCC). Located within the Wai’ale’ale Project on campus, the School Pantry offers KCC students a selection of snacks, ready-to-eat meals and non-perishable foods to take home.

“The idea of a School Pantry at KCC was brought to us by a current student, who has not only used our services over the last few years but has also noticed more students in need on campus,” said Wes Perreira, Kaua’i director. “It is well documented that well-nourished, food-secure students have higher rates of cognitive activity, school attendance and academic achievements, and we’re pleased to be able to help.”

For the School Pantry at KCC, Hawaii Foodbank Kaua’i provided two lockable storage cabinets, which it fills with a variety of food. A refrigerator will also be provided once space is made available.

The School Pantry at KCC is based on the Food 4 Keiki School Pantry program, which serves as a critical food resource for students, their siblings and their families.

Well-nourished, food-secure students have higher rates of cognitive activity, school attendance and academic achievements, and we’re pleased to be able to help.”

Currently, Hawaii Foodbank Kaua’i operates Food 4 Keiki School Pantries at five schools on Kaua’i, including ‘Ele’ele Elementary, Koloa Elementary, Chiefess Kamakahelei Middle, Kaua’i High, and Kilaeua Elementary schools.

Daughter-father team ‘Paddle for Hunger’

Bailey and Kirk Fritz compete for a cause while crossing the Ka’iwi Channel

For most teenagers, summertime means a break from school and plenty of time to relax. It’s not uncommon to see many of them spending the day at the beach, on their boards or lounging with friends. However, 14-year-old Bailey Fritz had different plans. Her summer was about to become extraordinary.

With the help of her father Kirk, Bailey set out to compete at the Molokai 2 O’ahu Paddleboard World Championships — a 32-mile race that crosses the Ka’iwi Channel. Known as the “Channel of Bones,” the Ka’iwi Channel has a reputation as one of the world’s most treacherous bodies of water.

If that wasn’t daunting enough, the daughter-father duo from Ewa Beach took on an even deeper commitment — using the race as an opportunity to “Paddle for Hunger” and raise funds for Hawaii Foodbank. Leading up to the event on July 28, Team Fritz set up a community fund drive and dedicated their training to nourishing Hawaii’s hungry.

The race proved strenuous, but Bailey’s spirit persevered, and the mission propelled her to keep going.

“My siblings and I are super blessed to always have more than enough. We are fortunate to have food on the table every day, and it helps empower us to do great things,” reflected Bailey. “Helping other families and kids to be able to do things like that kept me motivated.”

With each stroke, the two never stopped “paddling for hunger.” Team Fritz placed second in their division, and their efforts raised $7,700 to help feed hungry families.
Between holiday parties, family obligations and the pressure of finding that perfect gift — this time of year can certainly go by in a flash. That’s why it’s even more important to take a moment to pause and reflect. Amidst the bustle of the holiday season, we are reminded how important it is to give back. Here are seven ways to give that not only take care of holiday shopping lists, but they also help fill plates and brighten smiles.

###freshBOX

- **Ongoing campaign**
  
  For freshBOX subscribers, every week can be a food drive! To participate, subscribers just place non-perishable food donations in their recycled freshBOX and leave it out on delivery day. freshBOX drivers will collect the donations and deliver them in bulk to Hawaii Foodbank.

###Inspire Organics

- **Through Dec. 31**
  
  For the rest of 2019, each purchase of Light Up Organic Energy Supermix will provide support to local Kaua‘i families during the holiday season. 10 percent of every Light Up product sold will be donated to support Hawaii Foodbank Kaua‘i.

###Joel Gott Wines

- **Through Dec. 31**
  
  Gott for Good is a holiday campaign developed by Joel Gott Wines to help provide holiday meals to families struggling with hunger. To help address hunger in Hawaii, Joel Gott Wines will donate a portion of their product sales this holiday season to Hawaii Foodbank.

###Pampered Chef

- **Through Feb. 29, 2020**
  
  When Hawaii customers round up their Pampered Chef order, 100 percent of their contributions will benefit Hawaii Foodbank. On top of that, each purchase of a limited edition Boat Press Set, Cookie House Mold, Donut Pan or Mini Loaf Pan will provide additional support.
Food and Groceries That Give Back to Our HUNGRY ‘OHANA

During the holiday season, our schedules tend to fill up fast. Fortunately, there are plenty of ways to give back while taking care of things that may already be on the holiday to-do list.

The Cheesecake Factory

Through Feb. 29, 2020

This season, customers can be extra sweet to those in need while dining at The Cheesecake Factory. Each order of Pineapple Upside-down Cheesecake will help feed Hawaii’s hungry.

Whole Foods Market Feed4More

Through Dec. 17

As Whole Foods Market shoppers prepare for their holiday gatherings, they have the opportunity to help feed a local family struggling with hunger through the Feed4More Campaign.

Safeway Feed the Need

Through Dec. 25

Safeway shoppers can help feed Hawaii’s hungry families this holiday season by purchasing pre-filled bags of groceries for $10 at the check stand.

Meadow Gold Check-Out Hunger

Through Jan. 15, 2020

To contribute to Meadow Gold Check-Out Hunger, all shoppers have to do is tear off a bright-green coupon at check-out, and the selected total is added to the grocery bill. Participating stores include Don Quijote, Marukai Wholesale Mart, Times Supermarkets, Tamura’s Fine Wine & Liquors and more.

Happy Holidays!

Our community’s generosity provides Hawaii’s hungry with nourishment, hope and aloha. From our Hawaii Foodbank ‘ohana to yours, mahalo for helping fill plates – and hearts – this season.
'Black Out Hunger,' highlight hope
Alaka‘i’s inaugural event engages new audiences in Hawaii Foodbank's mission

In 2018, Hawaii Foodbank mobilized Alaka‘i, a dedicated group of young professionals, with the intent of engaging future generations in its mission.

“We are passionate about cultivating a new audience of donors who share in Hawaii Foodbank's mission to provide nourishment and hope to 1 in 8 people in Hawaii," said Toby Tamaye, board member and Alaka‘i chair.

Over the last year, Alaka‘i worked diligently to captivate their peers and create new, dynamic initiatives. Their first year of service culminated on Nov. 14 at the inaugural Black Out Hunger event.

Presented by Sysco Hawaii, the pau hana fundraising event treated guests to an evening of pupus, cocktails, live entertainment, silent auction, lucky draw prizes and more. It afforded young professionals and leaders in the community the unique opportunity to network and connect while also building awareness and rallying support for Hawaii's hungry.

Black Out Hunger guests united by wearing all black attire to the event — a symbolic gesture of "blacking out" hunger in Hawaii. Collectively, the evening raised more than $32,000 — enough to help provide food for nearly 19,000 meals.


Hiki nō: It 'can' be done
14th annual Canstruction® spreads 'the Aloha Spirit' in new location at Kahala Mall

This year, AIA Honolulu’s Canstruction® competition received a new beginning at Kahala Mall. To celebrate, the event’s theme sought out to express Hawaii’s special "Aloha Spirit" by highlighting the community’s local style, Hawaiian history and island traditions.

Four teams of local architects and industry professionals — Bowers + Kubota, Coffman Engineers, G70 & Layton Construction, and HDR — put their building skills to the test and created giant structures made entirely out of several thousand cans of food.

HDR’s structure, titled “Lono CAN Provide,” won both Best Original Design and the People’s Choice Award. Cans from the event combined with votes submitted as canned food donations from the public totaled more than 7,700 pounds. Canstruction® Keiki Corner sponsors Evergreen by Debra also presented a check for $5,000. Altogether, the event raised enough to help provide food for nearly 19,000 meals.

Mahalo nui to the organizers, participating teams, volunteers and all those involved in making this year’s Canstruction® a success. Hawaii Foodbank is incredibly grateful to be the beneficiary of such an amazing event.
JOIN US FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

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The 18th Annual
HAWAII FOODBANK GOLF CLASSIC

FRIDAY, FEB. 21
HAWAII PRINCE GOLF CLUB

Sponsored by
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Hawaii Foodbank

WINTER 2019/2020

CHECK-OUT
HUNGER

Nov. 1, through Jan. 15, 2020

Join Us!
Saturday, March 14
Hawaii Foodbank
Warehouse

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