



Community Connection

October 2016



Highlighted Partner Agency: Lind Senior Center



The Lind Senior Center in Lind, WA serves their community one meal per day to 5 to 15 people four days a week. They run solely on volunteers from the community. One such volunteer, Jenny Penell, has worked as the centers cook preparing the community meals for twenty-eight years. Along with the daily lunch, the center holds a food distribution on the last Tuesday of the month which serves 25 to 50 people. The Lind Center and its volunteers continue to support their community by building community gardens

and putting a food pantry in their local school. Let’s thank the Lind Senior Center for all the great work they do to serve their community.

Bite 2 Go Adoptive Organization: DAA Northwest

A year and a half ago, DAA Northwest’s employees made the decision to adopt Sunset Elementary School in Airway Heights. Over 75% of Sunset’s student body qualifies for free or reduced price lunches. In addition, Sunset Elementary has a very high volume of students who are considered to be “at risk” of dropping out.

More than 100 of DAA’s employees contribute funds from each paycheck to help fund Bite2Go snack bags for 185 students every week; DAA Northwest matches all employee funds. Staff volunteers pick up pre-packed snack bags at Second Harvest every other week, and deliver the bags to classrooms at Sunset Elementary every Friday.



Did You Know?

Second Harvest builds and distributes, on average, 16,000 Bite 2 Go kits a month.

Wanting to expand the relationship with Sunset, DAA employees began mentoring at-risk students in October. The company also recently provided a “Buddy Bench” to be installed on the school playground – an item Sunset’s students have been wanting for some time. And when DAA learned through Airway Heights Parks and Recreation Department that Sunset Elementary needed help funding for new basketball backboards in its gymnasium, the company was all in.



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“All of us at DAA are glad to have the opportunity to serve kids and their families right here in our community.”



Members of DAA Northwest’s At the Core/Sunset Elementary Adoption Committee recently joined Sunset Elementary staff for a Principal’s Luncheon. “It was a great opportunity for us to connect with Sunset’s teachers and staff,” says Mitzi VanVoorhis, DAA’s Director of Marketing.



School Pantry: Coeur d’Alene High School



Two years ago, CHS Student Council had a conversation about Maslowe’s Hierarchy of Needs and realized that if they really wanted students to be academically and socially successful here, and families to be successful within the community, they needed to meet some of their primary needs. The students knew they could help create the sense of safety, security and hospitality at the school, but they discussed how we could help in other ways. Their Associated Student Body (ASB) presented the idea of partnering with local agencies to address the hunger that pervades sections of their community.

After much research, they contacted 2nd Harvest and began the process of learning what it takes to run a food pantry. With months of collaborating and training, they were finally ready to open the Pantry to the students at the beginning of the 2016 school year. They continue to research how to open the pantry to their whole community.

Learn More Here: <http://www.krem.com/news/local/kootenai-county/coeur-dalene-hs-students-create-new-food-bank/327770606>



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Agency Education: Second Harvest Agency Conference



I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in our 7th Annual Agency Conference. Your participation has made it the success it is today. Here are this year's CIVIC Award winners:

- Community Involvement- **Moses Lake Senior Opportunity & Services**
- Innovation- **Northeast Washington Hunger Coalition**
- Volunteerism- **Valley Food Pantry**
- Ink- **Ford Sunset Club**
- Commitment to Children- **Community Action Center of Whitman County**

To learn more about the CIVIC Awards and how you can make a difference please contact me at Owen.Esperas@2-Harvest.org

AmeriCorps at Second Harvest:

We are excited to have our new AmeriCorps members on site in Spokane and to see what kind of impact they will have with our community and partner agencies. Welcome Josiah, Natasha, Alicia, and Joel to our Second Harvest family.



Coming Next Month:

- ❖ Sampling in the Lobby



Joke of the day:

Why are bananas bad getaway drivers?

They're in such a hurry to split they peel out!!

