

# COVID-19 RESPONSE IMPACT

**SPRING 2020** 



#### YOU ARE KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY FED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

Amidst the uncertainty that the COVID-19 crisis has brought to our community, you've stepped up to help ensure that one thing remains stable: food. Because of you, people most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic can continue to access healthy food at no cost. Thank you.

The COVID-19 pandemic is not just a public health crisis—it's also an economic one. The rapidly changing nature of this crisis means that people are finding themselves suddenly unable to afford basic needs like food. Many people in our community have seen incomes decrease or disappear while expenses increase as they take the necessary precautions to keep themselves healthy and safe.

The generous and immediate response of people like you has helped meet the increased need for food in communities across Eastern Washington and North Idaho. You supported innovative solutions to ensure that people facing hunger can still access healthy food at no cost.

In times like these, it's more important than ever to care for one another, and you've shown immense compassion by giving the gift of food to our neighbors in need.



Thanks to you, students can still get healthy food at their school, even though classes are canceled. Food distributions at schools provide groceries to children and their families while regular school meals aren't provided. Your gift gets food to kids through weekly produce drops at Kennewick School District and various pop-up distributions at schools in the Greater Spokane area.



### **YOU ARE FEEDING KIDS**

You've helped keep kids fed during this crisis.

Children and teens saw a lot of changes in their routines when schools shut down to help slow the spread of COVID-19. But school closures didn't just disrupt classes. For many students, it disrupted their main source of meals. Your gift has supported creative solutions to ensure that area youth continue to get the nutrition they need to live healthy lives.



Thanks to support from donors and volunteers, schoolchildren in need in Spokane, Benton and Franklin counties still receive their Bite2Go kits each week while schools are closed. The meals and snacks provided in the kits not only keep kids healthy but also help families stretch their grocery budgets as they navigate changes in their income.



## **YOU ARE FEEDING FAMILIES**

You've ensured families don't have to choose between food and other necessities that help keep them safe and healthy during this crisis. Your gift not only provided food to food pantries and meal sites experiencing increased need but also supported new and creative ways to get food to families facing hunger right now—some for the very first time.



Many food pantries began reporting a 30-50% increase in pantry visits during the first two weeks of the COVID-19 crisis. Your support has made it possible for the people they serve to continue accessing the food they need to stay healthy during this time.

Second Harvest's hunger solution center in Pasco held two drive-thru distributions to help meet the increased need for food in the Tri-Cities. **Each distribution provided food to 250 families.** Your gift supports new methods of providing food to the community like this one.





Your gift has helped increase Mobile Market distributions in the Inland Northwest by 275%. The Mobile Market fleet has been on the road every weekday—multiple times a day—to provide food to families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **YOU ARE FEEDING SENIORS**

You've provided food to one of the most vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 pandemic—seniors. Seniors are facing even more barriers to food access right now, as it's unsafe for them to leave their homes. Your gift provided healthy food to seniors in our community in ways that prioritize their health and well-being.

The Mobile Market bus brought groceries right to Vintage at Spokane, a senior living facility. On March 30, **120 seniors received food** at this distribution. Your support fuels the Mobile Market bus as it travels to other senior living facilities throughout the Spokane area to provide healthy food to elderly people without them having to leave their homes.





Your gift is going the extra mile for our neighbors in need—literally. In partnership with Spokane Food Fighters, Second Harvest has provided **hundreds of emergency food boxes** to people who can't leave their homes right now—like seniors. Second Harvest volunteers build the boxes, and Spokane Food Fighters volunteers deliver them to people's doors.

