

meet charlotte

Charlotte's household temporarily has a few more mouths to feed in the wake of the Oregon Road fire near Deer Park.

"My sister-in-law is staying with us, plus my one friend who's on the evacuation side is still staying with us," Charlotte says. "She hasn't lost her place, but she can't go home yet."

Charlotte explains that she and her partner, Robert, live just outside of the evacuation zone. They spent three days combing through the rubble of what used to be her sister-in-law's house.

She's met many people whose lives were saved from the fire—and many whose homes and animals were destroyed by it. A close friend who was injured when the wildfire devoured his home is recovering in a hospital, Charlotte says. Another friend, whose family of five lost their house in the blaze, is staying with Charlotte's sister.

At today's Mobile Market free food distribution, Charlotte's looking primarily for food that will help her stretch her grocery budget; she mentions staple proteins such as chicken and ground beef.

Charlotte and Robert regularly access free food at Mobile Markets. "We try to get here at least once, if not twice, in the summer," she says.

Her family typically grows a garden for fresh produce, but a water shortage has been a challenge for gardening this year. Without her homegrown produce, Charlotte says her budget doesn't stretch as far as it usually would.

"Even with the food bank here and our food stamps, we're still forking over \$400 to \$600 a month" for food, Charlotte says.



**Hunger is unnecessary,
unacceptable and
starves human
potential.**