

# together

SPRING 2024



The pursuit of a  
hunger-free community  
is soaring, thanks to  
heroes like you!



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### OUR MISSION

The mission of Three Square Food Bank is to provide wholesome food to hungry people, while passionately pursuing a hunger-free community. Our vision is simple: No one in our community should be hungry. By bringing together the resources, experience and passion of the people and businesses of Southern Nevada, we can make sure no one has to. Together, we can feed everyone.

*Three Square Food Bank is registered with the Secretary of State and qualified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, and a member of Feeding America. Established in 2007, Three Square is Southern Nevada's only food bank and the area's largest hunger-relief organization. Your charitable contribution to Three Square is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*



## Food for Thought

I don't use the word *hero* lightly, but when I consider all that it takes to pursue a hunger-free community, I'm struck by the many people whose commitment to the work of Three Square Food Bank is nothing short of heroic. You are among them!

Your generous support is at the very heart of everything we do. Without caring friends like you, more of our vulnerable neighbors (like Maria and Irene, featured below) would go hungry.

Then there are the local grocery stores who donate excess quality food to Three Square, our dedicated drivers who collect and distribute food across Southern Nevada, and our agency partners — the "boots on the ground" who make sure the food gets into the hands of those in need. All heroes in my book!

You can read about some of these amazing folks on the following pages. Then I encourage you to continue your strong support with a generous gift today. With the persistently high cost of food and other life essentials, more and more people are in need of help. **Every \$1 you give provides 3 wholesome meals for hungry neighbors.**

Thank you for your heroic acts of compassion and generosity, and for standing in the gap for those most in need!

Gratefully,

Beth Martino  
President & CEO



## You Make Southern Nevada a Community that Cares

Maria and Irene arrived at their local food pantry together to pick up groceries for their respective families. For the longtime friends, these grocery runs are just one more way they can support each other in these challenging times.

Both women are hardworking. Irene holds down two jobs to try and make ends meet. But, with the persistently high costs of food, rent, and other essentials, they still need a little help.



**You're saving food and saving families from hunger!**

# You're in Good Company

When you support Three Square, you're partnering with the who's who of grocery store chains to rescue food for our neighbors in need.

- Albertsons**
- Big Lots**
- Costco**
- Green Valley Grocery**
- La Bonita**
- Maverik**
- Natural Grocers**
- Sam's Club**
- Smart and Final**
- Smith's**
- Sprouts**
- Target**
- Trader Joe's**
- Vons**
- Walmart**
- Whole Foods**
- Winco**
- And more!**

**YOU helped rescue 14.4 million pounds of food in 2023.**

**That's about 12 million meals!**

**"I find a joy and purpose behind our work,"** says Dustin Parks, Three Square's Community Engagement Manager. And how could he not? In his role, Dustin oversees our Retail Rescue Program, a special operation designed to rescue excess food and unsalable items (dented cans and such) from local grocery stores.

Last year, around **12 million meals worth of food** were rescued and distributed to individuals and families in Southern Nevada. **Thirty percent of that was fresh produce.**

*"We work with all the grocery store chains in town,"* Dustin says. *"About 190 different locations from Green Valley Grocery, Smart and Final, Albertsons, Costco and everything in between."*

Three Square's team of drivers dedicated to retail rescue visits anywhere from 12 to 14 stores per day. They pull up to the receiving docks in the back, then staff from the various departments inside the store bring out their food donations for that day. The food is sorted and organized, then distributed to our partner agencies and pantries that afternoon.

To further community collaboration and sustainable practices, Three Square has also connected 30 agency partners to grocery stores within their service area, allowing them to rescue the product directly.

*"We try to keep the food from each store in that immediate area so the recipients are benefiting from the impact of their local neighborhood grocery outlet,"* Dustin says. *"And everything is being consumed within 24 to 48 hours of being picked up."*

**Thank you for standing with Three Square and our partner stores to rescue quality food for hungry neighbors!**

And they're extremely thankful for the wholesome food they receive.

Maria appreciates the fresh, healthy produce the most, and Irene agrees. *"Yes, the vegetables and fruits — everything they've given here has been great,"* she says.

The women are also deeply grateful for friends like you who are so generous to help in their time of need. **"I feel really blessed and happy knowing there's a community willing to help provide food,"** Maria says. **"Yes!"** Irene chimes in. **"The whole community's rallying together, and we share. If I have food, I give it to my neighbor. And they have fruit that they give to me."**



# Join the Hunger Heroes



Help save the day every day by giving monthly!



Becoming a monthly donor is a heroic act of compassion and one of the best ways you can impact hunger in our community. That's because your recurring gifts help ensure wholesome food for hungry families every day of the year.

### When you join Hunger Heroes, you will:

- ✓ Provide Three Square with a reliable source of funding
- ✓ Minimize our fundraising expenses
- ✓ Help us plan ahead to reduce hunger in Southern Nevada

Last Year, our Hunger Heroes helped to provide over 2.2 million meals to those in need. Please join today at [threesquare.org](http://threesquare.org). You choose the amount, and you can change or cancel any time!

*A monthly gift of \$25 provides 900 meals every year. Imagine how many lives you can touch!*

# Some Heroes Drive Trucks



With over 20 vehicles in their fleet, Three Square's team of 11 drivers works tirelessly to drive out hunger in Southern Nevada. Last year, they traveled 219,626 miles accident-free to distribute healthy, life-giving food across Southern Nevada. That's like driving around the earth's circumference nearly 9 times! And the work they do is impacting many lives, including their own:

*"It's a great feeling pulling up to a drop and people are smiling and waving at you."*  
- Damian

*"Delivering food gives me a great sense of purpose."*  
- Angel

*"It feels like I'm giving back, and seeing smiles is rewarding."*  
- Kaleo

*"Delivering food makes me happy to know I'm helping the community."*  
- Amous

*Your support helps our dedicated drivers keep on truckin' to feed hungry neighbors!*

## Three Square Honors



As Director of Distribution at Three Square, Tai McIntosh believes food is about much more than nutrients — it brings families and communities together. And she'll tell you our agency partners are key to making that happen for hungry people in our community.

*"Three Square distributed 45 million pounds of food last year,"* Tai says. *"Our team procures the food, but our agency partners do the heavy lifting in getting it to the neighbors."*

Over 150 agency partners work with Three Square to provide food assistance. As an essential part of Southern Nevada's safety net, our partners connect with the neighbors we serve, ensuring their food distribution models are tailored to those neighbors' needs.

*"They inspired the creation of our Agency Partner Council,"* Tai says. *"This group reflects the voices of all our agencies, strengthening our network and creating more solutions to meet the need in our community."*

Each year, we host an appreciation breakfast to celebrate the efforts of our amazing partners. We recently honored New Hope Fellowship with the Agency Partner of the Year award. Additional award recipients included Communities in Schools of Nevada for Best in Childhood Nutrition Programs, HopeLink of Southern Nevada for the Golden Heart Award and Emergency Aid of Boulder City for Outstanding Community Partnership. ***Our sincere gratitude goes out to every partner for the incredible impact they're making!***