



together

WINTER 2023

15 Years of Service and Counting

Back when Paul joined Three Square Food Bank in 2008, there was only one warehouse for food. Today, there are three warehouses distributing food through 23 trucks and 12 drivers every single day! As the job has grown, Paul and the team have grown right along with it — transforming from a food collection hub all to help the growing number of neighbors facing hunger ...

(continued on page 2)



4190 N. Pecos Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89115
702 644-3663
threesquare.org



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

It's hard to believe we're in our 15th year of feeding hungry neighbors. That's a testament to the tremendous leadership of Brian Burton, the Hilton Family, Paul Plata & Three Square's employees, our volunteers, agency partners — and ultimately to the amazing support of caring friends like you.

From our humble beginnings, when we were granted our South Campus building in 2007, to the opening of our North Campus building in 2009 and Senior Hunger Campus in 2020, it's our wonderful community of supporters who have carried us through and built upon a legacy of feeding hungry people. And the impact you've made is remarkable!

Because of you, the amount of food Three Square Food Bank has distributed these past 15 years has grown beyond our wildest expectations — from 10 million pounds of food the first year to 51 million pounds this past year. **All told, 528 million pounds of food have been distributed to date.**

We count it a privilege every single day to continue reaching hungry people with the food they need, and to have you standing with us. Especially now, when the need is so great. One in seven people in Southern Nevada is currently food insecure. That's 341,000 men, women, and children who are facing hunger. Thankfully every \$1 donated provides 3 meals, which means you have the opportunity to impact many lives.

You will never see the people you're helping, but they know you're there. On behalf of each and every one of them — and all of us here at Three Square — please accept a huge and heartfelt **"thank you."** Here's to another 15 years!

Gratefully,

Michelle Beck

Interim President & CEO/Chief Development Officer

15 Years of Growth ... Thanks to You!



12 drivers



~14,400

miles each month to pick up food donations



~1,302 food deliveries each month

An interview with Paul Plata,

continued from page 1

Q: Have you ever experienced hunger?

A: No, growing up I was lucky enough to have food on the table. I can't imagine how bad it can be when you're hungry. Good thing our community has Three Square to help feed hungry families.

Q: How has Three Square changed over the years?

A: Three Square obviously grew way



How One Family's Table Talk Sparked *15 Years* of Feeding Hungry Neighbors

"He always felt he had a duty to help someone in need."

— Beverly and Linda

Perhaps it's fitting that the early inklings of Three Square Food Bank began around a dinner table. It all began when Eric Hilton, son of hotelier Conrad Hilton, shared with daughters Beverly and Linda about an idea to help people experiencing hunger.

"We were having a family dinner and there were leftovers," Beverly and Linda recall. *"That made him share his idea for helping those with food insecurity."*

This is just one of many fond memories the daughters have of their father Eric, who passed away in 2016 after a long and distinguished career centered on serving others.



A U.S. Army veteran who served in the Korean War and heir of the Hilton Hotel legacy, Eric could have rested easily. Instead, he

worked harder than ever after retiring to help the community of Las Vegas.

Eric convinced the Board of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to help fund the infrastructure of what became Three Square Food Bank. And when donors, volunteers, and staff caught his vision, he jumped in wholeheartedly to do his part to make it happen. *"When his dream finally came to fruition and Three Square Food Bank became a reality,"* the sisters add, *"it was his pride . . . and his passion for it to succeed."*

Today, in partnership with Beverly, Linda, and good friends like you, Three Square continues to carry out Eric's vision for a hunger-free community. *"His true caring and compassion are what we're witnessing today,"* the sisters say. Thank you for embracing Eric Hilton's vision, and for making life better for so many neighbors facing hunger.

bigger since I started. But every time things changed, we changed along with it to continue to help people.

Q: What are the biggest challenges facing Three Square today?

A: Hunger is still among us, especially with inflation and poverty. But it seems like after COVID hit, we are now receiving

a lot less food donations and assistance from federal emergency food programs.

Q: Do you have a message to share with Three Square donors?

A: Thank you for supporting Three Square with your donations. We are all very grateful for your help

and will continue to do what we can to feed everyone in need here in Southern Nevada.

Thank you for partnering with Paul and the rest of our dedicated Three Square team to continue feeding hungry people!

15 Years and Still Better Together

Helping Hands of Vegas Valley is reaching more hungry neighbors, thanks to you!

We began our relationship with Helping Hands of Vegas Valley (HHOVV) back in 2007, and it's been growing ever since. One of our first collaborations was the launch of Senior Share, an innovative program to provide food pantries with supplemental food boxes for senior citizens. And today, we continue to push forward together to deliver more nutritious food to a greater number of hungry neighbors.

"We have grown in clients and capacity due in large to our great partnership with Three Square," says Marcia Blake,



Executive Director of HHOVV. *"Without the resources of food, supplies, funds, and equipment that we have received from Three Square, we would not be able to serve 2,400 clients a month with non-perishable and perishable food as well as paper products."*



Marcia Blake

The strength of this collaboration has been especially impactful in meeting needs during these tumultuous times, when families across Southern Nevada have

experienced spikes in costs for food, housing, fuel, and other life essentials.

"Helping Hands of Vegas Valley is incredibly grateful to Three Square for the longstanding partnership between our agencies," Ashley West, Pantry Director of HHOVV says. *"With their help, we have been able to increase the number of senior citizens we serve with food by more than 100% over the past ten years."*



Ashley West

This 15 Year Old Sure Knows How to Celebrate!

At 15, Dylan is like many kids his age. He loves basketball, skateboarding, and practicing his guitar. But one thing sets him apart: a strong commitment to help feed hungry students.

Through a program at his school, Dylan has been joining in Three Square's 15th anniversary celebration by volunteering, and he's making a significant impact for children who do not have enough food. Whether he's packing boxed lunches or organizing chocolate milk for girls and boys in the BackPack for Kids Program, Dylan loves helping out in this tangible way.

"I feel good after my day at Three Square because I know we aren't just putting food in bags," Dylan says. *"We are helping students who are not as fortunate as we are."*

To learn how you can join in the celebration as a volunteer, please visit threesquare.org/how-to-help/volunteer

