#### Now is the time to...

# Give BIG!



#### A message from our Executive Director

By now everyone is aware of the upcoming budget cuts on both the federal and state levels. There is no other way to say this other than these cuts will dramatically impact us and food banks everywhere.

The USDA has confirmed that \$500 million that was to be used for TEFAP purchases has been canceled. \$4.7 million of that food was scheduled to come to WA State. Food we were scheduled to get included canned protein, dried fruits, frozen protein and even milk. This cut comes on top of the USDA cutting the Local Food Purchase Assistance Program, which would have provided \$8.5 million to Washington state food banks.

I am not an alarmist by nature but make no mistake, we will feel this impact deeply. More importantly, our customers, neighbors and friends will feel this impact. These cuts will impact seniors, kids and families across the region.

We are okay today. I don't know if the worst will be next month or next year, but there will be an adverse impact, and most likely, some tough decisions will have to be made. We've already started to make plans, prepare and adjust. Our priority will be to continue to serve our community to the best of our ability.

Now and in the coming months we will need your support and help more than ever. With these cuts and the rising costs of food we know the number of folks who come to our doors will increase. We know people who have never had to visit foods banks in the past will need to come to us. We served more than 100 new families each of the past two months, and that number will rise as we go forward.

We will need your financial support. We will need your help in volunteering, in holding food drives and in advocating on our behalf. We are passionate about our mission: "To kindly and respectfully provide equitable access to nutritious food in our community". Today and in the coming months we need your help to continue to make this happen.

With gratitude, Matthew Campbell Executive Director



We are excited to announce that a gracious donor will MATCH each GiveBIG donation made on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, up to \$5,000!
Make your donation go further by donating here: https://svfoodbank.org/donate-online Make sure you note your donation

"GiveBIG"

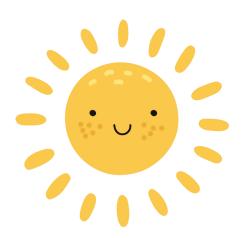


## **Upcoming Food Drive**

This year's Letter Carrier Food Drive is more crucial than ever, and so easy for everyone to participate in. Simply leave a bag of food at your mailbox on the morning of Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> and your Letter Carrier will do the rest. Food donated to this National Food Drive keeps the shelves stocked for the summer months, and we hope you will be kind enough to help. Here are a few items we currently need: whole grain pastas, brown and white rice, peanut butter, shelf stable milk, chili, stew, ravioli, canned chicken and tuna, canned fruits, and hearty canned soups.

Please remember that we can not accept homemade items, expired items, and anything in glass.

## Thank you, Wagner Community Club



The Wagner Community Club was formed in 1945 and has been a community staple ever since. Unfortunately, they closed their doors in 2024 after nearly 80 years of supporting our community. Over the years, they provided grants not only to us, but also to the Senior Center, Boys and Girls Club, Volunteers of America, Monroe Arts Council, and many others. As part of their last donation to us, they wanted to help us complete Phase 3 of our remodel. Their grant allowed us to finish a number of smaller tasks, including new signage and a new floor scrubber. But the crown jewel is our roll-up-style garage door in our shopping area! When it's closed, the new door still lets light in through the shatterproof glass, making the entire market more welcoming. And when it's open on beautiful spring and summer days, the fresh air is a welcome addition. We are incredibly thankful for the Wagner Community Club and all they accomplished in our community.













Recently, Girl Scout Troop 52711 paid a visit, delivering an impressive 850 pounds of non-perishable food to support our community. Furthermore, they demonstrated a genuine interest in learning about the operational aspects of our food bank. Led by our warehouse lead, Angie, the troop participated in an informative tour of our warehouse, walk-in cooler, and walk-in freezer, gaining a deeper understanding of how their donations would be utilized. We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to these young ladies for their commitment to making a positive impact in their community.

### **Volunteer Spotlight**

Meet Dana, Sue, and Judy, three shining stars who embody the true spirit of volunteerism. Each of them dedicates multiple days a week to helping those in need, tirelessly stocking the market, guiding customers through our distribution line, and lending a hand in the warehouse. But that's not all - they also spearhead our home delivery packing, bringing hope and nourishment to our homebound customers. These remarkable women meticulously shop from customized menus and pack each delivery crate, ensuring our more than 20 homebound customers receive exactly what they need. We extend our deepest gratitude to Dana, Sue and Judy for their unwavering commitment to this program, inspiring us all with their selflessness and compassion.





Your GiveBIG donation could provide for:		
<ul> <li> ☐ \$60 Weekend food bags for children</li> <li> ☐ \$120 Milk &amp; eggs for our homebound seniors</li> <li> ☐ \$250 Fresh produce for the market</li> <li> ☐ Other</li> <li> ☐ Make checks payable to Sky Valley Food Bank and mail to:</li> </ul>	Name:	
	Address:	
	City:	
	State:	Zip:
	Phone:	
	Email:	
P.O. Box 724 Monroe WA 98272	Online: www.svfoodbank.org	

SEE INSIDE ON HOW YOUR DONATION CAN BE MATCHED!

Sky Valley Food Bank 233 Sky River Parkway P.O. Box 724 Monroe, WA 98272

PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Phone:

360-794-7959

Email:

endhunger@svfoodbank.org

Website:

www.svfoodbank.org

