



Ag Against Hunger

# The Agricultural Community Feeds the Hungry



By: Lindsay Coate and Helena Beckett  
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Ag Against Hunger – The Program

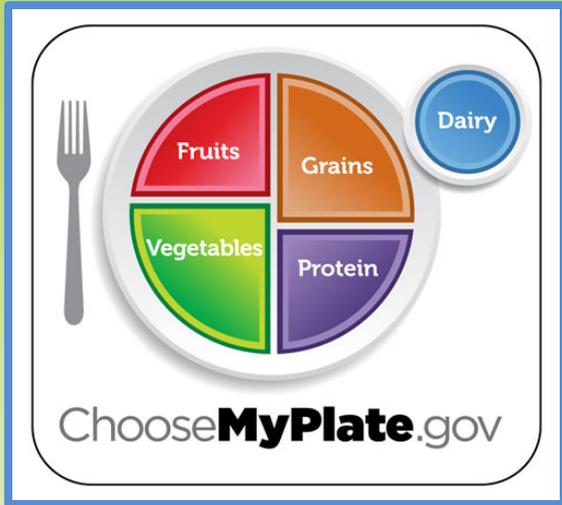
# Mission Statement



## Ag Against Hunger's Mission Is:

To alleviate hunger by creating a necessary link between the agricultural industry and food assistance programs.

# Fruits & Vegetables Matter



## Healthy Choices

- 20% of people living in Monterey Area live below the poverty line.
  - Make choices
  - Buy food OR pay rent?
- Clearinghouse for surplus crops in the counties of Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito.
- We distribute to over 40 food banks in CA and throughout western U.S.



# Historical Background



Tim Driscoll



Jess Brown  
Santa Cruz  
Farm Bureau



Willy Elliot McCrae  
Second Harvest Food  
Bank Santa Cruz

## Our History

- The Ag Leadership Program in 1989
- Brown bag program at Dallas Food Bank
- 20% of produce was dumped yearly in tri-county area
- Originally F.O.O.D. Crops
- First year goal



# Produce Rescue

2013



## Ag Against Hunger Today

- Over 200 million pounds of produce in 23 years
- Over 1 billion servings
- A model for produce recovery and distribution

Picture Source:  
<http://networkforahealthycalifornia.net>





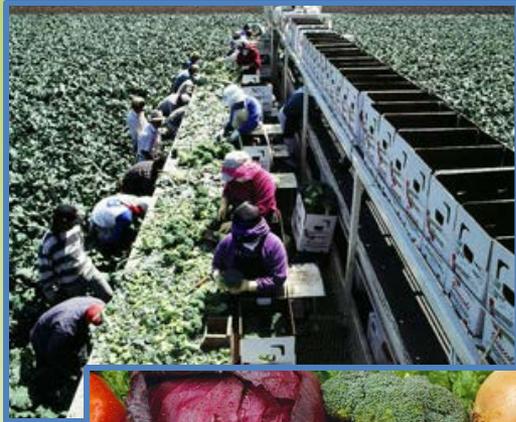
# Produce Rescue

## 4 Simple Steps



## How it Works

- Grower surplus = call AAH.
- We will come and collect the produce.
  1. Four programs to collect fresh surplus produce
  2. Consolidates produce at cooler
  3. Distributes produce to food banks
  4. Food banks give to people in need



Network for a Healthy California



# Programs

Collect Surplus Produce



## #1 – The Harvest Program

- o During local growing season, April through December
- o 50 grower/shippers/processors in tri-county area
- o In 2012, 12 million pounds produce
- o Local/State food banks receive first priority

ALBA Organics  
 American Farms  
 Bengard Ranches  
 Boggiatto Produce  
 Boskovich Farms  
 Brent Redmond Trucking  
 Central Coast Cooling  
 Chieftain Harvesting  
 Classic Salads  
 Coastline Produce  
 Coke Farm  
 Colorful Harvest  
 Conlan Ranch  
 Cool Pacific  
 Dalena Farms  
 D'Arrigo Brothers of California  
 Delta Potato Chips  
 Diamond Produce  
 Dole Fresh Vegetables  
 Driscoll Strawberry Associates  
 Duda Farm Fresh Foods  
 Dulcinea Farms  
 Easton  
 Earthbound Farm  
 Epic Root  
 Frasier Lake Farms  
 Fresh Express  
 Frisco Farms  
 Growers Street Cooling

Happy Boy Farms  
 Heller Estates  
 Herbert Family Organic Farm  
 Ippolito International  
 Lakeside Organic Gardens  
 Mann Packing Company  
 Martin Jefferson & Sons  
 Markon  
 Metz Fresh  
 Misionero Vegetables  
 Monterey Mushrooms  
 NewStar Fresh Foods  
 The Nunes Company  
 Ocean Mist Farms  
 Pacific International Marketing  
 Pfyffer Associates  
 Pride of San Juan  
 Rio Farms  
 River Ranch Fresh Foods  
 Royal Rose  
 Salinas Valley Cooling  
 Salyer American  
 San Felipe Farms  
 Steinbeck Country Produce  
 SunAmerica Produce  
 Tanimura & Antle  
 Taylor Farms California  
 UniKool  
 Watsonville Berry Coop



**Ag Against Hunger**  
THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY FEEDS THE HUNGRY



# Programs

Collect Surplus Produce



Dole Fresh Vegetables  
Duda Farm Fresh Foods  
Earthbound Farms  
The Nunes Company  
Ocean Mist  
Tanimura & Antle  
NewStar Fresh Foods  
Chieftan Harvesting  
Taylor Farms  
Driscolls  
Mann Packing  
Colorful Harvest  
Coastline  
Salinas Valley Cooling  
Bengard Ranches  
D'Arrigo Brothers

## #2 – Winter Program

- January through March
- 1 million pounds local from local packers
- Rent a truck to Yuma, AZ once a week
- Only supply local area food banks



# Programs

Collect Surplus Produce



## #3 – Sharing Produce Program

- Diversity
- Local food banks only
- Share With
  - Community Food Bank of Fresno
  - Northwest Harvest in Washington
  - St. Mary's Food Bank in Arizona
- They get strawberries, lettuce and broccoli etc.
- We get tomatoes, potatoes and stone fruit, etc.





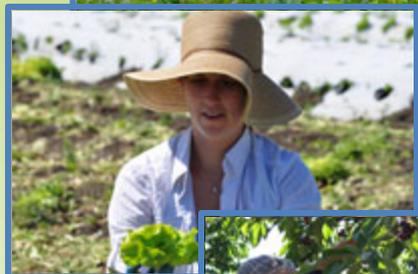
# Programs

Collect Surplus Produce



## #4 – Volunteer Gleaning Program

- Glean – to gather produce or grain left in the field by farmers
- Pick produce from fields that could not be sold by growers
- Broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, etc.
- 1000 local volunteers to act as harvest crews
- April through November
- Why Glean?
  - Hands on farming
  - Sense of Community
  - Feed people fresh vegetables





# Consolidate

Our Cooler



## Consolidate Produce at our Cooler

- Receive multiple truckloads
- Break-up loads to multiple food banks





# Redistribute

4 Levels of Food Banks



## Distribute Produce to Food Banks



**Food Bank for Monterey County**

**Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz County**

**California Grey Bears**

**Community Food Bank of San Benito County**



**Alameda Food Bank  
Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo**

**Food Bank of Santa Barbara County**

**Madera County Food Bank**

**Martha's Kitchen**

**Merced County Food Bank**

**Sacramento Senior Gleaners**

**San Francisco Food Bank**

**Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara County**



**California Association of Food Banks**

**California Emergency Foodlink**

**Community Food Bank of Fresno**

**FoodLink for Tulare County**

**North State Food Bank**

**Regional Food Bank of Los Angeles**

**Southern California Food Bank**



**Arizona Association of Food Banks**

**Care and Share - CO**

**Food Bank of the Rockies - CO**

**Northwest Harvest Food Bank - WA**

**Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma**

**St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance - AZ**

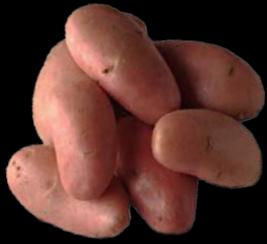
**Yuma Food Bank - AZ  
Utah Food Bank**

**Primary Recipients - Tri-County Area Food Banks**

**Second Level - Surrounding Area Food Banks**

**Third Level - California State Food Banks**

**Fourth Level - Out-Of-State Food Banks**



# Step 4



Produce to Food Bank Recipient

## Food Banks Give to People in Need

**Name:** Al Sifry

**Residence:** Santa Cruz

**Food Bank:** Grey Bears of Santa Cruz

“With all the money seniors spend on medicine, these free vegetables are instrumental to our survival!”

**Name:** Isabel Maldonado

**Residence:** Watsonville

**Food Bank:** Second Harvest Food Bank of Watsonville

“These days the cost of vegetables are very high, so getting these from the food bank is a great help. Because I have diabetes, eating nutritious vegetables is also very important.”





# Board of Directors



Helena Beckett  
Director of Replenishment

## Board Representative

- 17 member board of directors
- Members in our Agricultural Community
- Direct where we would like to see the produce go
- Agriculture's philanthropic efforts



Driscoll's Strawberry  
Tanimura and Antle  
Ocean Mist Farms  
American AgCredit  
Mann Packing  
Fresh Express  
Costa Farms  
Earthbound Farms

Dole Fresh  
1st Capital Bank  
Noland, Hamerly, Etienne & Hoss  
Belli Architectural Group  
Taylor Farms  
The Nunes Company  
Pacific Valley Bank  
Hayashi & Wayland





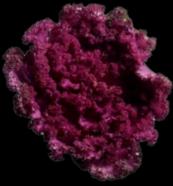
# Who We Are Helping



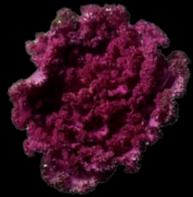
## Food Banks and Community Pantries

- Give them a variety of commodities
- Cannot take container loads of same product
- Can manage their inventory more effectively
- Fast and efficient turnover





# Who We Are Helping



## Food Bank Recipients

- Who Uses Food Banks?
- Tri-County food banks served 158,500 people this year
- Hunger in Monterey County
- All food banks, 3 million people served





# Who We Are Helping



## Produce Companies

- One number to call
- No produce dumped/wasted
- All local food banks get first priority
- Grower inventory management
- No shipping or dumping costs
- AB 152 tax break



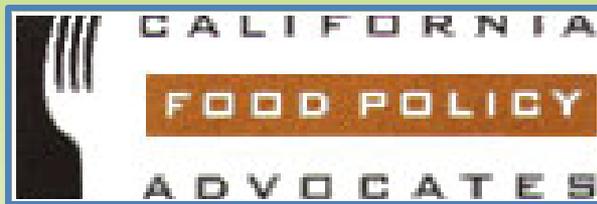


# Hunger



## Hunger is never going away

- California Food Policy Advocates
  - 4,781,201 Californians in poverty
  - 87,000 live in tri-county area
- Lowest incomes have greater risk of obesity
- Overweight or Obese Adults
  - 53.9% Santa Cruz County
  - 63% Monterey County
  - 73.8% San Benito County





# Major Accomplishments And What is New



## **Accomplishments in 2012**

- 200 Million Milestone
- Sharing Produce Program

## **What is new in 2013**

- Partners In Produce
- Monterey County Schools Project





Thank You!!



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