Food for Thought

Brian Burton, President and CEO

When I arrived at Three Square 11 years ago, we encouraged our team’s vocabulary with a “word of the month.” At each staff meeting, I introduced an under-used word or image to freshly convey a thought or idea.

One day I reframed a familiar, timeless toy from childhood, a “kaleidoscope.” The original meaning of that word — “a beholder of beautiful things” — captured my inaugural experience of Three Square.

As I view the multitude of volunteers, donors, and staff of Three Square in action every day, I noted it’s like a kaleidoscope — dazzling, spangled, multi-shaped, color rich, compassion-filled faces flowing across my field of vision, inspiring hope, wonder, and delight.

As you page through this issue, I hope you see yourself as you behold the beauty of these local staff heroes who deliver Three Square’s mission on your behalf.

It takes all of us to realize the goal of a hunger-free community.

While we still build our team’s vocabulary, I must admit — I’m often at a loss for words when I think about the magnitude of what you, our friends and donors, mean to us.

What you do is inviolate, loving, uplifting, meaningful, and somehow, sacred.

You make possible the work of these diverse heroes, creating a kaleidoscope that does more than inspire — you alter and transfigure lives throughout our community forevermore.

Color us grateful.

Brian Burton, President and CEO

Amanda attributes her selflessness to the example her parents set as they constantly ensured those in need would receive help, even if they went without themselves. After applying for a volunteer position with the food bank, Amanda was hired to become a part of our Hot Food Rescue program.

Today, Amanda is our Director of Procurement and Community Engagement. While she understands that the world cannot be fixed in one day, Amanda knows that a meal can make a difference in someone’s life, so she takes every opportunity she can to end hunger and lift up her community.
Regis Whaley
Director of Advocacy & Research

With his own family struggling to put meals on the table for the first decade of his life, Regis became interested in learning more about food insecurity and its underlying causes. When a Research Specialist position became available at the food bank, he jumped at the opportunity!

Today, Regis is our Director of Advocacy and Research and is pursuing a PhD in public health. His involvement in advocacy allows him to tell the story of food insecurity, explain why the food bank’s work is essential, and work towards solutions that can create change.

Regis is more than willing to learn any skill set and take on any responsibility to ensure no one has to go hungry. He accredits his accomplishments to his community as every individual he has interacted with has taken the time to teach him and further his own drive to end hunger.

Sheena is the third generation in her family to serve her country through the U.S. Air Force. During her travels, Sheena witnessed food insecurity in her family, the military, and in countless communities. This inspired Sheena to become a dietitian and learn more about the effects of food insecurity.

As she transitioned into civilian life, Sheena took the opportunity to volunteer and intern at Three Square several days a week. Once Sheena graduated with her degree and completed her internship, the dietitian position opened at Three Square, and she knew it was meant to be.

As Three Square’s Registered Dietitian, Sheena found herself in a unique position to shape programs and initiatives that would change lives. Sheena is an everyday hero because she has dedicated her life to helping others, and she works to build programs that uplift the community through wholesome, healthy meals.

Dionte Miles
Childhood Nutrition Program Coordinator

Sheena is an everyday hero because she has dedicated her life to helping others, and she works to build programs that uplift the community through wholesome, healthy meals.
In 2017, Dionte's uncle encouraged him to apply for a volunteer specialist position at Three Square. Dionte learned to manage fast-paced volunteer sessions, explain the need in the community to each group that came in, and to assist anyone who walked through the food bank’s doors.

Near the end of 2019, Three Square hired Dionte to work within our Childhood Nutrition Programs. Since then, Dionte has helped immensely within the areas of pandemic response, food assistance, SNAP benefit enrollment, grocery deliveries, and food distribution management.

Dionte hopes to continue giving through his work with Three Square, and he embraces each opportunity to go out and engage with his community. Dionte's core values in hard work and giving back motivate him in every role he has taken on to help his community.

Josue’s parents always encouraged him to give back to others, and he immediately got involved in community service once he started high school, volunteering, and then interning, at Three Square.

The internship turned into a part-time job, and once Josue received his degree in accounting, he accepted a full-time position at Three Square as an Account Specialist.

After dedicating years to the food bank, this everyday hero hopes to continue his work and make an impact for those in need. His life experiences have strengthened his goal to help out as many people as he can in the community, and Josue is grateful to work with an amazing team and alongside like-minded individuals who believe in Three Square’s mission to end hunger.
A friend encouraged Dan to participate in a donor event hosted by the local food bank. Dan was drawn to the cause of ending hunger and the people who supported the mission, so he joined the Development team at Three Square.

Today, as the Senior Development Officer, Dan spends countless hours establishing and building upon his relationships, inspiring the community to help end hunger in Southern Nevada.

Collaboration within his own team and different departments at Three Square is essential to Dan’s work, and he is grateful to learn more about the amazing people in his organization and the important roles they play in feeding the community.

Dan is an everyday hero because he creates genuine connections that see and support his passion to end food insecurity. He is unafraid to rally up his community to help those in need, and he always keeps the big picture in mind.

Jayson understood the importance of healthy meals because his family struggled with food insecurity. Since middle school, he took the time to learn about public health issues and the resources that can be provided to those in need.

After volunteering with the food bank for six months, Three Square offered him a position in the Volunteer department. Jayson is grateful to have found a career that encompasses his passion for helping others.

Jayson is an everyday hero because he has dedicated his life to helping his community, inspiring others to join the fight against hunger through his actions and leadership.
Debbie Evans
Warehouse Supervisor

Debbie joined Three Square’s Warehouse team with over 20 years of nonprofit experience. With her extensive knowledge, patience, and organizational skills, Debbie eventually assumed the Warehouse Supervisor role at the food bank, overseeing the warehouse’s inventory while helping her team execute all the moving parts that go into getting food out in the community.

Debbie’s passion to make a difference in people’s lives goes beyond the food bank as she’s dedicated her free time to helping her church organize a food pantry for 10 years. The opportunity to hear a client’s story and know the food they receive will enrich their life motivates Debbie to continue doing her best each day. From guiding her peers, to accomplishing the task at hand, to doing whatever it takes to feed her community, Debbie is an everyday hero because she is driven by her heart to help as many people as she can.

EVERYDAY HEROES EDITION

Stacey Pybus
Warehouse Lead

Stacey’s family would always do their best to give back to others, which inspired Stacey to be selfless, empathetic, and goal driven.

Stacey joined Three Square’s Volunteer department in 2008. Today, as the food bank’s Warehouse Lead, Stacey applies all the experience she’s gathered to oversee and facilitate the entire process of moving product in the warehouse.

Stacey’s empathy drives her to help anyone in need, whether it’s through connecting them to community resources or offering the aid herself.