



three square™

together, we can feed everyone

MEMBER OF

FEEDING AMERICA

together

SUMMER 2022



three squareTM

together, we can feed everyone



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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

When most people picture the faces of hunger, they may think of the homeless or those in underdeveloped countries. But over the last couple of years, we have become all too aware that the faces of hunger can be our neighbors or co-workers; they look a lot like you and me.

Across Southern Nevada this summer, you'll find neighbors of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences fighting to put food on the table. The fifth-grade boy saving his rotted fruit. The hungry college girl suffering from personal distress. The elderly couple seeking dignity and peace.

These are just three examples of neighbors in need who suffer from rising temperatures, skyrocketing costs, and dwindling hope this season. That is why I am so grateful for your support. You have helped in so many ways, and you have supported your community in the most challenging of times and continue to do so.

Amid a time of year when many of us embark on vacation, or take some much needed personal time, please don't forget those who go without life's essentials.

No neighbor should go hungry, not when we have the resources to share.

Please allow the personal stories in this newsletter to inspire you to continue in our shared fight against hunger, this summer and beyond.

Thank you!

Brian Burton, President & CEO



Summer Relief for Hungry Kids

A fifth-grade student keeps a Granny Smith apple in the bottom of his backpack for eight days. He's saving it. Because food and finances are limited at home, the young boy stashes what he can, where he can. The fruit begins to rot. These are the images that drive Ashley Rush to work each day.

Educated on Hunger: Meet UNLV's McKenzie Mayor

A female UNLV student tears up when thinking about friends like you. The young woman endured multiple cycles of hunger — leading to poor health, missed studies, and emotional damage. She felt she had nowhere to turn. Then your gifts arrived.

Today, McKenzie Mayor — Registered Dietician at UNLV's Food Pantry — loves to use this student's story as a testament to hunger not discriminating by age.

"The student said that without our food pantry services, she had no idea what she was going to do," McKenzie recalls. *"When we helped her out, she was so happy, her eyes welled up."*



With support from Three Square Food Bank, The University of Las Vegas' Food Pantry allows for weekly distributions. Your gifts allow students and community members to plan regular visits, thus creating better plans for their week, and future.

"I don't think a lot of people understand the scope of food insecurity here," McKenzie explains. *"Whether it's an individual with a full-time job that doesn't have access to transportation to get groceries; or someone who is forced to prioritize paying for bills over nutritious food — the reality is, food insecurity can be experienced by anybody."*

"It breaks my heart when I see how much food is wasted in this world," McKenzie says. *"There are so many people in need because of a lack of access. So, I love being part of the solution."*

Your support brought tears of joy to the eyes of a young college kid. Thank you. Today, the female student McKenzie's team first helped, now wants to give back to others enduring similar pain.

"The gifts for food have meant so much to her. Her story is a nice reminder about the big difference in life one small act of kindness can make."

— McKenzie Mayor, Registered Dietician at UNLV's Food Pantry

"The personal stories that my frontline partners send me, represent so many children we serve," says Ashley, Three Square's Childhood Nutrition Programs Manager. *"In response, we plan, prepare, and send out 2,000 to 3,000 meals every day."*

According to Ashley, come summer — when school, and school lunches, end — your support of programs like Meet Up & Eat Up, saves lives. *"These programs offer breakfast and lunch to children during the hot summer,"* Ashley shares. *"When school is out, hunger rises."*

As our community hopefully continues to exit

a pandemic, dedicated staff members like Ashley — who hold the plight of local children close to their hearts and minds — are excited about the chance of more in-person services.

Friends like you act as extended family for local children over the summer, stepping in to make ends meet.

"We couldn't continue any of these programs without your support. Because of you, we have a lot of reasons for hope and optimism. Thank you!"

— Ashley Rush, Three Square's Childhood Nutrition Programs Manager





Food offers seniors *comfort, dignity, and peace.*

Paige, a local elderly woman, was battling cancer for four years when Coordinated Living of Southern Nevada met her. She, her boyfriend, and her dog, were living in an uncomfortably tiny, weekly housing rental — filled with stress, and devoid of essentials. So, our partners got to work — through your support.

Coordinated Living of Southern Nevada, one of Three Square’s amazing partners in fighting the food scarcity epidemic affecting seniors, placed the aging couple into a comfortable apartment, where they began receiving regular food, through generous friends like you.

“To see this woman now — to see how well she is doing — how she is feeling safe and supported — it just takes your breath away,” shares BJ Wright, Executive Director of CLSN.

Currently, BJ’s staff helps care for 1,895 seniors. Over half of these aging adults have no biological family visiting or caring for them. They only have the friends they make onsite. CLSN staff, partners like Three Square, and

dedicated supporters like you, become their extended family.

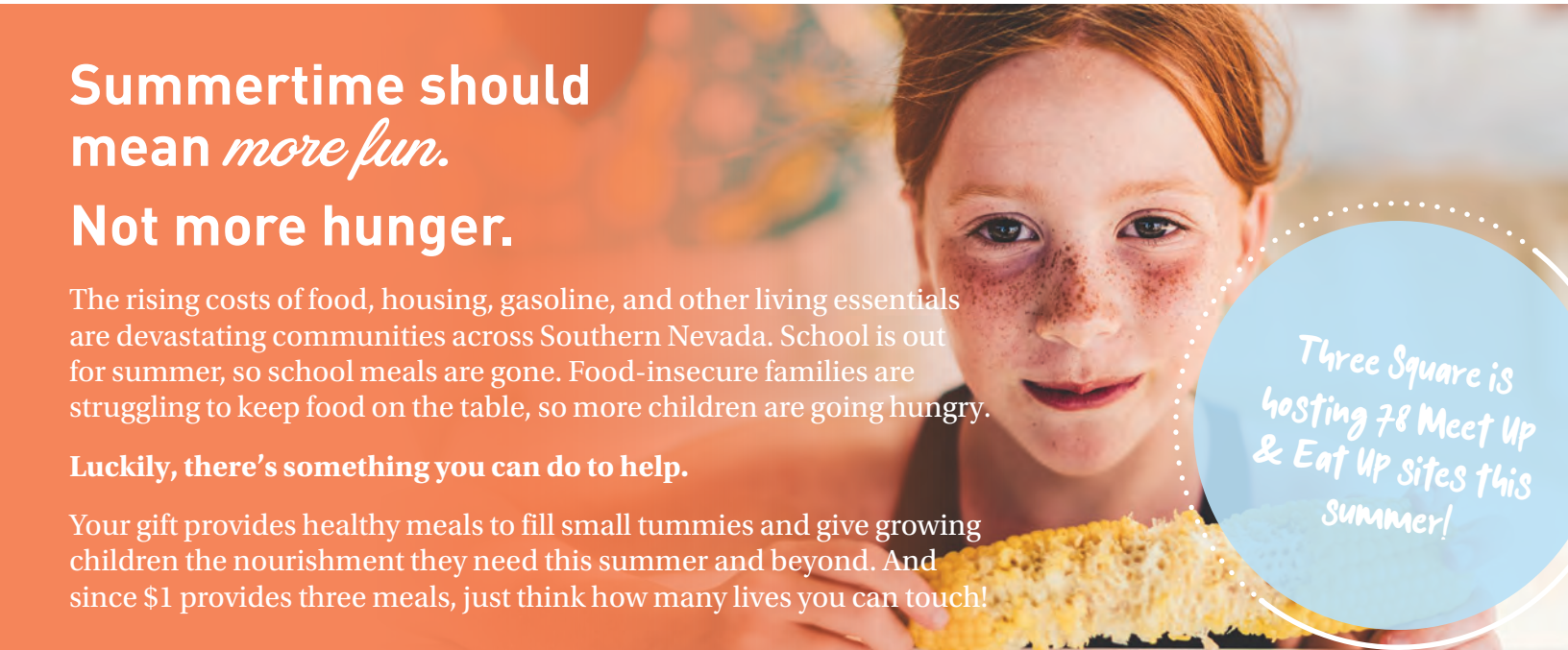
“The food you provide is a lifeline. It’s powerful. It allows these seniors, in the latter part of their life, to live with dignity and in peace. Without supplies from partners like you, many of our seniors would simply go hungry.”

— BJ Wright, Executive Director of CLSN



As most agencies who serve the senior population would attest, simple things like food, a hug, or personal attention — create invaluable worth within the hearts of the elderly. A basic human gesture can help remind someone that they are still valued and cared about. Besides food, your support provides these emotional gifts.

“If we did not have partners like Three Square, I honestly don’t know what our seniors would do,” BJ shares. *“Every donated dollar counts! Thank you so much for the incredible work that you do.”*



Summertime should mean *more fun.*

Not more hunger.

The rising costs of food, housing, gasoline, and other living essentials are devastating communities across Southern Nevada. School is out for summer, so school meals are gone. Food-insecure families are struggling to keep food on the table, so more children are going hungry.

Luckily, there’s something you can do to help.

Your gift provides healthy meals to fill small tummies and give growing children the nourishment they need this summer and beyond. And since \$1 provides three meals, just think how many lives you can touch!

Three Square is hosting 78 Meet Up & Eat Up sites this summer!