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## From the Director

As you're reading this, we are busy preparing to reopen our Client Choice Food Pantry for in-person shopping. Since mid-March, we've been distributing food by the box at stations in our parking lot. Even though we've fed thousands of families and kept everyone safe with noncontact curbside distribution, we want to return to our in-person shopping system that provides families in need with dignity and a sense of ownership by allowing them to choose their own foods.

We plan to reopen the pantry on July 6. When we do, we'll also be able to work face-to-face again with people who need emergency financial assistance for rent and utilities and help them apply for food stamps and other public benefits. During the shutdown, we used email and the phone to communicate with families in need but we're anxious to get back to working and talking with people in person. We are hoping to reopen the Community Table Health Clinic soon as well. We know there are even more people now without health insurance who need access to free medical care. We'll announce an opening date for the clinic soon.

We are also gearing up to help those most affected by the pandemic such as people who have lost jobs and high-risk older adults and people with pre-existing health conditions who have been housebound by expanding our Mobile Pantry operations. You can read on the following pages about our new pop-up pantries and the plans we have to keep everyone safe when we reopen our facility.

None of what we do would be possible without the support of our innovative staff, tireless volunteers and generous donors. We are so grateful to everyone for their outpouring of support during this crisis. You make it possible for us to continue our vital work of feeding our friends and neighbors in need—those who depend on us now and those who may find themselves hungry for the first time in the coming weeks and months.

With gratitude,

Sandy Martin  
Chief Executive Officer

## Did You Know?

The recently passed CARES\* Act allows you to deduct up to \$300 of charitable contributions on your 2020 tax return?

You can claim a deduction for a charitable contribution, even if you do not itemize deductions.

\*Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

# News and Updates



## Pop-Up Mobile Pantries

Throughout the pandemic, we've worked hard to get food to families in need. To keep everyone safe, we switched to distributing food by the box in our parking lot and we began home delivery for those in quarantine or at high-risk. Now, that it is safer, we are expanding our Mobile Pantry program to bring food to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. We know that not all people in need feel comfortable visiting us for food especially as the pandemic continues to unfold and that there are many communities where mobility and transportation are an issue.

Watch for our Mobile Pantry popping up all over Northern Jefferson County during the summer and into the fall. Communities include seniors and disabled adults at low-income housing complexes, homeless students at community college campuses, families living in "weekly" motels along the I-70 corridor, seasonal farmworkers at mobile home parks and low-income and under-served communities in Westminster and other outlying areas.

To help keep everyone safe, we plan to hold mobile pantries outdoors whenever possible. But whether they are indoors or outdoors, we will have hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, social distancing and other safety precautions in place. (The image shown is from an earlier mobile pantry program.)

## Safety First and Always

At Community Table, we take the safety of families in need and our

volunteers and staff seriously. As we reopen our facility to in-person shopping and client assistance, we are taking additional precautions to keep everyone safe.

We've added hand sanitizing dispensers in a dozen locations around our facility. We are wiping down shared surfaces, carts and equipment after each use with food-safe disinfectant. Staff and volunteers are wearing gloves and masks when handling and packing food.



We've posted signs at the entrances and throughout our building asking anyone who is exhibiting signs of illness to go home and not return until they are no longer sick. We're taking the temperature of everyone entering our building and requiring that masks be worn. We're limiting the number of people in our facility at one time and enforcing social distancing while waiting in line and while shopping.

We'll continue to closely monitor developments and information from the Center for Disease Control and the Colorado and Jefferson County Departments of Public Health and adjust our safety precautions as needed.

## Help Us Re-Stock our Pantry

We are reopening our Client Choice Pantry on July 6 for in-person shopping and we need your help to re-stock our shelves with nonperishable goods.

Out of safety, during the COVID shutdown, we stopped taking most food donations from the public. The pandemic disrupted our grocery rescue program as well and postponed the annual postal food drive that brings in more than 80,000 pounds of nonperishable food to our warehouse each spring. Now our shelves are bare.

Even though thanks to the generosity of the community, we were able to procure nearly 225,000 pounds of emergency food and distribute it to more than 3,200 families during the height of the crisis, we now need to return to a more sustainable food distribution model. One that relies upon donated and rescued nonperishable food supplemented by purchases of fresh produce, meat and dairy to round out our nutritional mix.

In addition to being more sustainable, donated and rescued food provides variety and choice for the families we help. Our Client Choice Food Pantry was founded on these very principles of providing struggling families with dignity and



a sense of ownership by allowing them to choose their own foods.

Help us re-stock our shelves by donating nonperishable food today. Our food donation drop-off hours are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 8555 West 57th Avenue in Arvada.

No time for shopping? Donate at [cotable.org/donate](https://cotable.org/donate)

Thank you for thinking of your neighbors in need!

# Nothing Can Stop our Volunteers

We can't believe how lucky we are to have such wonderful and devoted volunteers. Nothing can stop them, not even a pandemic. Below are the first of many stories we want to share about our team of volunteers, whose tireless dedication makes it possible for us to feed thousands of families every year.

## Guss Hill



Donned in mask and gloves during his Thursday morning volunteer shift, Gus sorts through produce and bags up fresh oranges for families in need.

Gus has been volunteering at Community Table since 2007 as a way to give back to the community. Before retirement, Gus owned one of the largest crane and steel construction companies in Colorado for 25 years. Gus enjoys the satisfaction of coming in every week and giving back to the community. "It feels great to know that in some small way, we all can make a difference!"

We are grateful to Gus for his 13 years of service but we will soon have to say goodbye. He and his family are moving on to small-town living on the Western Slope where we're sure Gus will find another organization to volunteer with. Best wishes to Gus and his family!

Debbie Webb is one of our "newer" volunteers who joined us about a year and a half ago to help families shop in our Client Choice Pantry. After retiring, she wanted to be useful and help with the "need in our community." Before volunteering, Debbie had a long career as a travel agent and as a banker.

Barbara Taylor has been volunteering with us for more than five years, doing everything from picking up food donations at local grocery stores to stocking pantry shelves and delivering "weekend" food to Arvada K-8 as part of our Feeding the Future program. Before retirement, Barbara owned a software company for nursing students.

## Debbie Webb & Barbara Taylor



Debbie (left) and Barbara (right), pictured on a Thursday morning during the pandemic packing food boxes for curbside distribution in our parking lot.

## Andy Rogers



Taping boxes of emergency food for safe, noncontact distribution in our parking lot.

Andy began volunteering in 2015 as a "food rescue" driver twice a week, picking up donated food from local grocery stores. Before joining Community Table, Andy worked for 40 years as a wire and copy editor at *The Denver Post*.

Even though he's taped thousands of boxes these last few months, Andy is still smiling under his mask because, "It's such a great cause—everyone needs food especially during these times when folks are often short on income. Food, shelter and clothing are basics we all need, so it's great to know I'm helping folks meet some of those basic needs. Also, I get to socialize and work with some really nice folks (other volunteers)! And, it gets me off the golf course twice a week!"

# Mark your Calendar 2020

You can help feed the hungry and put struggling families on the path to self-sufficiency when you participate in these upcoming events benefiting Community Table.



## Tee Off Against Hunger

Monday, August 17, 2020

Hyland Hills Golf Course, Westminster  
Become a sponsor! Come play!

Please join us for the ACFB Foundation's Sixth Annual Charity Golf Classic benefiting Community Table. 100% of the proceeds help feed the hungry and provides emergency assistance and self-sufficiency programs for families in need.

This year's tournament is Monday, August 17 at Hyland Hills in Westminster and includes breakfast, lunch, drink tickets and prizes. Tee times begin at 7 a.m.

Act fast. The Charity Golf Classic sells out. To ensure your spot, purchase a sponsorship today! Foursome slots will open in July if still available. For more information, contact Jamie at 303-487-3559 or [jamie@industrialchemcorp.com](mailto:jamie@industrialchemcorp.com).



## Help Feed the Hungry with your Colorado Tax Refund!

Ongoing through tax day

A new program will let you give some or all of your Colorado income tax refund to help feed the hungry and support the work of Community Table.

Whether you do your taxes yourself or use a tax preparer, visit the ReFUND CO website at [refundwhatmatters.org](http://refundwhatmatters.org) for more information and simple instructions for how to make sure your tax refund donation goes to your chosen nonprofit organization.

On your paper return or tax software, look for the prompt to Donate to a Colorado Nonprofit and use our name—Community Table—and our registration number—20033002744. For every \$10 you donate, we can provide 30 nutritious meals! **YOUR REFUND. YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR CHOICE.**



## Five Cupcakes Feeding the Future

September 2020

Rheinlander Bakery Olde  
Town Arvada

Throughout September, every time you buy one of the featured cupcakes, Rheinlander Bakery will donate \$1 to our Feeding the Future program! The Five Cupcakes Feeding the Future are Mimosas, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Pumpkin Spice, S'Mores and Oreo Crush. Rheinlander Bakery is also collecting donations to help feed hungry school kids. When you donate \$5 or more you'll receive an orange Feeding the Future wristband.

# THANK YOU

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated to Community Table since this crisis began. Some of you are donating for the first time. Some of you are longtime supporters who never let us down. Either way, we are grateful for the outpouring of support that allows us to continue our vital work of feeding our friends and neighbors in need and helps ensure that struggling families keep a roof over their heads.

During the pandemic, we distributed 216,000 pounds of food to 3,262 families and provided dozens more with emergency financial assistance for back rent and overdue utilities. Your support helped make all of this possible. Thank you!



Your gift to Community Table is in good hands and comes with a wholesome return.

With each \$1 you donate, we can provide food for 3 nutritious meals. Community Table has a **4-Star** rating on Charity Navigator, a **Platinum Seal of Transparency** on GuideStar, a **5-Star** rating on Impact Matters and we are a Better Business Bureau **Accredited Charity**, which means you can trust that your donation will be used to help those in need in your community.



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