



Dear Robin,

Together we are making a difference in the lives of local families and individuals! With ongoing participation of both clients and volunteers, The Hope Garden is producing a wonderful array of fresh herbs and produce for our Mobile Food Bank every week.

We are over 75% of the way to meeting our \$75,000 goal for our Season To Grow campaign - providing the necessary funds for food assistance and empowerment programs. With your contribution to The Hunger Coalition before September 18, you can make a difference in the lives of others. If you haven't joined this campaign, please consider making a donation today, then join us on September 18th to celebrate at our Harvest of Hope Celebration.

I hope you'll read on to learn about recent successes and new programs. As always, your participation is appreciated!

Jeanne Liston, Executive Director

Save The Date!

The Harvest of Hope Celebration

A Community Event Supporting The Hunger Coalition

September 18th 4 - 7pm

Join us at The Hope Garden for an evening of fresh food & live music!

More information to come ~

Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to our Board President, **Brooke Bonner** for receiving the Best of the Valley's Volunteer of the Year Award!

- o For her tireless dedication as a Board Member
- o For her inspirational vision as a community member
- o For her continuing leadership and generosity

We are thankful for Brooke's efforts on behalf of the hungry in Blaine County and consider ourselves fortunate to have her on our team!

Language in the Garden Starts August 2nd!

Monday evenings at The Hope Garden offer a wonderful opportunity to improve your Spanish skills, share in a cultural exchange, and do a little gardening on behalf of the hungry in our community!



Mondays from 5 - 6 pm at The Hope Garden

For more information, email Lorena Horne or call 788-0121 x. 304.

Participants are asked to complete a brief questionnaire. To download or review, please click here.

Success Story: Heather

Our Success Stories highlight individuals who have taken initiative and changed their lives for the better. Please take a moment to see how your support is providing not only food, but hope for a better tomorrow. We have changed names so as to preserve anonymity.

Heather originally came to us as a volunteer for the Backpack Club. Heather and her two children began stuffing backpacks for hungry students once a week at our warehouse. Since both kids are home schooled, this was a wonderful opportunity for them to be a greater part of the community and, in her words, "It was an awesome experience for us." Unfortunately, shortly after starting, her husband lost his job. With Heather schooling the children at home, there was no income for the family and as Heather says, "We were having a very difficult time providing for our family." They were forced to go from volunteer to recipient. Heather shifted to helping out at the Mobile Food Bank as a way to give back.

Eventually, both Heather and her husband were able to find work and no longer needed the Coalition's support, though Heather continues to volunteer today. What was so important to Heather and her family was that, "The Hunger Coalition helped when we didn't know where else to go. It's hard to ask for help sometimes, but the wonderful staff and volunteers have always gone out of their way to make it not so embarrassing."

Both Heather and her husband have decided to go back to school to improve their opportunities down the road. They are back on their feet and working toward a brighter future for themselves and their children, while continuing to give back through volunteering. Heather's personal experience gives her a depth of understanding and empathy for those who seek our assistance that others don't have.

Summer Food Program's Wild Lunch & Story Hour a Big Hit!

Kids attending The Lunch Connection this summer at Woodside Elementary once again enjoyed an extra hour of fun activities during the first 6 weeks. The Environmental Resource Center offered their special Wild Lunch on Tuesdays & Thursdays, and the Bellevue Public Library brought free books to hand out during their Story Hours on July 13 & 15. Our thanks to both for helping to nourish bellies and minds!



The Lunch Connection continues through August 20th. Click Here for more information.

A big High Five for Luther Heights!

There's nothing like the energy and enthusiasm of 20 campers from Luther Heights Bible Camp to get a job done! Thanks to the hard work of these kids, more than 600 pounds of pinto beans were separated and bagged in family-size portions at our Food Bank Warehouse last week while an additional two garden beds were prepped at The Hope Garden!



Helping Hands for The Hope Garden. . .

- **A special thank you to the Heli-Tac Crew** who rescued Hallie from having to build three garden beds all by herself. With pickaxes and shovels, this thoughtful team of talented firefighters put their efforts to work at The Hope Garden and made it possible to get plants and seeds in the ground!
- **They really are the BESST - Kate & Billy Besst**, the owners of Willow Creek Nursery in Fairfield. With their generous donation of vegetable starts and fruit & nut trees there will be cherries to pick and hazelnuts to crack in the coming years thanks to their generosity.
- **A very special Thank You to Nick Stelma for his commitment in helping The Hope Garden** become a plush bounty of ready-to-harvest vegetables and herbs. For weeks, Nick has been working with Hallie to establish the irrigation system for the garden!
- We are able to clean our veggies & herbs in preparation for the Mobile Food Bank in thanks to the **Building Material Thrift Store** and their donation of an industrial sink!
- **Electricians, Chris Schatz and Kevin Doyle** have our profound thanks for bringing "life" to **The Hope Garden**, electricity, that is! Being able to store new harvests in the refrigerator is essential to keeping our produce fresh.
- The Hope Garden is looking beautiful, in part thanks to the recent donations of a **truckload of wood chips** from **Alpine Tree Service**. We are happy to help recycle and re-use materials and goods from local businesses!

And More Thanks...

- **Thank you** to the health conscious, mindful people at **Zenergy** who attended the **special Spin Class** held on behalf of **The Hunger Coalition** and contributed to their food drive!
- A genuine and heartfelt **Thank You to Hilary and Kirk Anderson** for their **weekly donations** of non-perishable foods. While shopping for their own groceries, this inspirational couple buys additional items for our yellow collection bins outside the store.
- It has been wonderful to have **sculptor Mark Stasz** contributing his talent to our **Food Bank**. We have a terrific blue mailbox in our foyer, a handsome black steel railing for our entry staircase, and a stationary scale in our warehouse due to the generosity of **Mark and his assistant Luke Ramsey**.
- We have an abundance of fresh greens to share with our clients through the **continued thoughtfulness of Clarence & Tona Stillwell** and **Linnea Newcomer** at **Fair Mountain Farms** in Fairfield.

A "Hope-Full" August

The Hope Garden is already producing an astonishing variety of fresh vegetables and herbs for our Mobile Food Bank!



As we head into August, our harvest is expected to get even bigger - and we need some help! With a refrigerator on-site for washing produce, bags for packaging, and a helper! On-site for storing, you can help us get our produce from "farm -to- food bank" in no time at all.

Please give Hallie a call at 788-0121 x. 311 to learn more about our harvest needs at The Hope Garden!

Thanks to the many businesses & individuals who have given so generously of their time & materials to create this community asset!

The Hunger Coalition
Issue XIX, August 2010

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The Hunger Coalition has a new look.

[View our new website!](#)

With new colors, completely revised text, and eye-catching imagery, the site is user-friendly, informative and easy to navigate.

Donate!

Don't have time to volunteer?

Your tax-deductible donation will go a long way toward fighting hunger in our community.

[Click here](#) to donate online or send checks to:

The Hunger Coalition
121 Honeysuckle Street
Bellevue, ID 83313

For information on making a gift of appreciated securities, please contact Jeanne Liston at 788.0121.

2009 Annual Report!



[Click here](#) to download a copy of our 2009 Annual Report.

Hunger Blog

[Check out our Blog!](#)

Stay updated and post comments



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Mission

The Hunger Coalition strives to end hunger in our community by providing wholesome food to those in need and by promoting solutions to the underlying causes of hunger through collaboration, education and advocacy.



Vision

We envision a community free from hunger where all individuals are able to participate as healthy, contributing members.



Values

Compassion for the plight of those less fortunate

Empowerment of the hungry to become healthy, contributing members of our community

Human Dignity and the right of all to have their basic needs met respectfully

Efficient Use of Donor Resources to meet our clients' needs

Responsibility toward our neighbors in need

Providing **Hope** to the hungry