

food matters

Spring 2011 Newsletter

a publication of the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent

From the Desk of the Executive Director



Did you know that anniversaries and birthdays have been found to be good for your health? According to some very knowledgeable people, survey's show that the more you have the longer you live! I'm kidding of course but there is some truth to this.

This year, my wife Carolyn and I will be celebrating our 40th anniversary. Talk about a real miracle! And guess what, The Food Bank of the Golden Crescent is celebrating its 25th Anniversary! This too is a real miracle brought about through the love and concern of the good people of South-Central Texas.

We wanted to do something special, something we never did before to acknowledge our growth and success. That's the underlying reason for the unveiling of a new fundraising initiative we named the Sweetheart Charity Ball. Thanks to the efforts and involvement of FBGC staff and board members alike this gala event turned out to be a crowd pleaser and a resounding success.



L-R: Dennis Brown, Executive Director – Food Bank of the Golden Crescent, LuAnn and T. Michael O'Connor, Co-Chairs, special guest Mrs. Texas – Natalie McLarty, and Master of Ceremonies, Gary Moses

Our good friends at H.E.B. stepped up to the plate early in the planning stage and committed to being the Event Sponsor. Rick Perkins, a FBGC board member and his lovely wife Oscar provided leadership and invaluable assistance in the planning and launching of this event. Our new friends, Luann and T. Michael O'Connor agreed to be co-sponsors. And Gary Moses, Victoria's goodwill ambassador assumed the

role of master of ceremonies. Dancing to the Fabulous Rick Perkins Band and a delicious buffet catered by Main Course all but guaranteed a perfect evening at the newly built Spring Creek Event Center.



**Food Bank of
the Golden Crescent**
3809 E. Rio Grande
Victoria, TX 77901
(361)578-0591
www.FBGCfoodbank.org

Serving the Counties of:
Calhoun, Colorado, De Witt, Goliad,
Gonzales, Jackson, Lavaca, Matagorda,
Refugio, Victoria & Wharton.

FBGC Celebrates 25 Years of Service



**2010 Agency Staff
2010 Agency Relations Conference
(see pg. 4)**

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**2010 – 2011
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Janitor
Ricky Dominquez

If you are interested or would like more information about volunteering, please contact the Food Bank at 361-578-0591.

From the Desk of the Executive Director

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There are so many people to thank for making this signature event a success but unfortunately we do not have the space to do it adequately. And the same goes for the countless individuals, families, businesses, corporations, foundations and organizations that have contributed financial and personal resources to establish this food bank. Today the Food Bank is representative of a community that is dedicated to "Healing the Hurt of Hunger."

The other day I wondered how much food we have distributed over the last 25 years through our network of food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters. The total came out to more than 6.5 million meals! While that is not quite as impressive as McDonald's billions, it is a tremendous tribute to the generous spirit of the people living in the Golden Crescent Region.

The beauty of philanthropy is that it is a two-way street. Henry Ward Beecher, stated it quite well when he said, "There never was a person who did anything worth doing, who did not receive more than he gave." I believe God has designed us in such a way as to reinforce this principle. And in closing, I would like to share a quote from Peyton Conway March, "There is a wonderful mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life, happiness, freedom, and peace of mind, are always attained by giving them to someone else."

My thanks to each and every one; may God continue to bless:



M. Dennis Brown, Executive Director

Kids BackPack Program Update:



Currently FBGC is serving 386 students at 16 elementary schools located in Calhoun County, DeWitt County, Matagorda County and Victoria County. We have also partnered with Parkway Baptist Church to reach an additional 189 students in the VISD. We have received a grant to begin a pilot program in Jackson County and we're working with a local foundation to launch another program in Wharton County. The response from parents and teachers alike has been quite positive and appreciative.

Thank you for helping me feed my child!

Thank you for the food it is great and helpful.

My student looks forward to the "Food Fairy." This may be some of the only things she eats over the weekend.

I strongly believe in this program. The children are very appreciative.

United Ways of Calhoun and Victoria counties have both agreed to provide partial funding for the Backpack Program in their respective counties. FBGC welcomes their financial support!

The Fabulous Rick Perkins Band

Don Lott
Tanny Busby
Teron Eaglin
Fred Carr



Rick Perkins



Featuring
Tameka Santa Cruz



L-R: Dennis Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Javier Aguilera and Mr. & Mrs. Ramiro Cavoazos. Mr. Ramiro is the new H.E.B. store manager on Rio Grande.

Sweetheart Charity Ball

Special Thanks to the Sponsors of the Sweetheart Charity Ball:

Event Sponsor - HEB

Diamond Sponsor - O'Connor-Hewitt Foundation

Emerald Sponsor - Alcoa

Sapphire Sponsors - T. Michael & LuAnn O'Connor, First Victoria, Triumph Hospital, Twin Fountains Medical Clinic, KMH Wealth Management, LLC

Ruby Sponsors - Coldwell Banker, The Ron Brown Co., Klean Corp., Int'l, Crossroads Health Center, Jacobs Insurance

Food Sponsor - Performance Food Service

Production Sponsor - Oscia Productions

Media Sponsors - Victoria Television Group, Victoria Advocate, Townsquare Media, Voices United Publication of Victoria, Victoria Radio Works, Revista de Victoria



Pat Strauss, Vice President of Finance, Performance Food Service and his wife Lori.



Jeff Pryor, President of the Victoria Television Group and his wife Lisa.

Mobile Food Pantry Program

FBGC is making plans to initiate a summer food outreach program during the months of June, July, and August. A used truck with a refrigeration unit was recently purchased that will be a help delivering food during the summer months. Thanks to a number of unrestricted gifts that were received toward the end of 2010, FBGC will now be able to serve more needy people in some of our outlying areas. And thanks to H.E.B. for sharing the cost of applying a vinyl wrap to the outside of the truck.

FBGC PARTNERSHIPS

FBGC is grateful to the following foundations for their generous gifts to "Help Heal the Hurt of Hunger."

Kids BackPack Program: The Beaumont Foundation, Dow Chemical Foundation, K.R. & Laura Miller Foundation, Overlake Foundation, Inc., Earl C. Sams Foundation, Inc., and South Texas Charitable Foundation.

Miscellaneous Food Programs: Crossroads Foundation, O'Connor & Hewitt Foundation

Unrestricted Grants: Greater Houston Foundation, The Trull Foundation, Wood Family Trust



The Beaumont Foundation's Robert Craft (center) presents a check to FBGC staff

A Special Thanks to:

South Texas Electric Cooperative for benefitting FBGC with the proceeds from their 16th Annual Golf Tournament held on April 21st.



Mac Haik Ford for their contribution of \$7,700 from their April "10 Ton Food Drive" truck and auto sales.



Upcoming Events

Victoria Advocate's Taste of Home Cooking School: Tuesday, May 10, 2011, Victoria Community Center, Expo, 4 to 6:30 p.m.; Cooking School, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Donate a can of food to FBGC at the show. When you do you will be entered in a drawing for a beautiful gift donated by H.E.B.

FBGC Agency Relations

Conference: Friday, May 20, 2011, John Wesley United Methodist Church, 8300 NE Zac Lentz Pkwy, Victoria, TX. Registration and continental breakfast at 9:00 a.m. For more information contact Frances Santellana at 361-578-0591



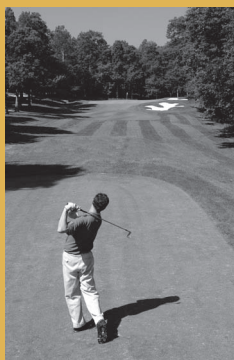
Hooter's ProAm Golf

Tournament: Tuesday, June 28, 2011, Country Club; proceeds go to FBGC (more details to follow).



Victoria Professional Fire Fighters Association 2nd

Annual Golf Tournament: Saturday, July 16, 2011, Victoria Country Club; proceeds go to FBGC (for more information call: 361-935-0488).



NEW - IRA Rollover Provision for 2011

The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization and Job Creation Act of 2011 has extended the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2011. Originally passed in 2006 as part of the Pension Protection Act, the IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70½ and older to make direct transfers totaling up to \$100,000 per year to 501(c)(3) charities, without having to count the transfers as income for federal income tax purposes.

Who qualifies?

- Individuals who are age 70½ or older at the time of the contribution (you have to wait until your actual 70½th birthday to make the transfer).

How much can I transfer?

- \$100,000 each year.

From what accounts can I make transfers?

- Transfers must come from your IRAs directly to FBGC. If you have retirement assets in a 401(k), 403(b) etc., you must first roll those funds into an IRA, and then you can direct the IRA provider to transfer the funds from the IRA directly to FBGC.

To what charities can I make gifts?

- Tax exempt organizations that are classified as 501(c)(3) charities, to which deductible contributions can be made.

Can I use the rollover to fund life-income gifts (charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, or pooled income funds)?

- No, these are not eligible.

Can I use the rollover to fund donor advised funds or supporting organizations?

- No, these are not eligible.

Can I use the rollover to support a particular purpose at FBGC?

- As with all other gifts, you can direct your IRA Charitable Rollover gift as you see fit.

How will FBGC count the gift?

- We will give you full credit for the entire gift amount.

What are the tax implications to me?

- **Federal** – You do not recognize the transfer to FBGC as income, provided it goes directly from the IRA provider to us. However, you are not entitled to an income tax charitable deduction for your gift.
- **State** – Each state has different laws, so you will need to consult with your own advisors. Some states have a state income tax and will include this transfer as income. Within those states, some will allow for a state income tax charitable deduction and others will not. Other states base their state income tax on the federal income or federal tax paid. Still other states have no income tax at all.

Does this transfer qualify as my minimum required distribution?

- Once you reach age 70½, you are required to take minimum distributions from your retirement plans each year, according to a federal formula. IRA charitable rollovers count towards your minimum required distributions for the year.

How do I know if an IRA charitable rollover is right for me?

- You are at least age 70½ AND
- You do not need the additional income necessitated by the minimum required distribution, OR
- Your charitable gifts already equal 50% of your adjusted gross income, so you do not benefit from an income tax charitable deduction for additional gifts, OR
- You are subject to the 2% rule that reduces your itemized deductions, OR
- You do not itemize deductions.

As with all charitable contributions, please consult your financial advisor for advice concerning your specific situation.