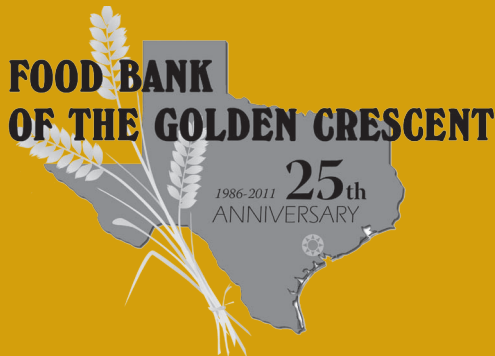


food matters

Fall 2011 Newsletter

a publication of the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent



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.

We Need Your Help

COMMUNITY SERVICE and our operations are inseparable. We provide the opportunity for citizens to give their time and talents to help us reduce hunger in our community.

The hundreds of volunteers who donate thousand of hours each year make it possible for us to serve many thousands of people who would otherwise go hungry. We invite you to become a Food Bank Volunteer!

Call 361-578-0591 to sign up!



Sure B.E.T. students participated by sorting food in FBGC's food rescue program.

From the Desk of the Executive Director



As a transplant from Illinois I have enjoyed being exposed to the culture of Texas as well as being introduced to southern humor. Consider these tidbits of cowboy wisdom: "Good Judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment"; "If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging"; and last but not least, "If you're riding ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there." This last quote is good advice for wannabe leaders and that brings me to the point of my article – leadership.

Nanus and Dobbs in their book *Leaders Who Make a Difference* define a leader as "a person who marshals the people, capital, and intellectual resources of the organization to move it in the right direction." They see four defining characteristics of leadership as being honest, forward looking, inspiring, and competent. In their opinion these four characteristics handily beat characteristics such as intelligence, caring, loyalty, determination, dependability and maturity.



Leaders and students from Sure B.E.T.'s Youth Leadership 2011 program planting trees in front of the Food Bank.

Quoting from Kouzes & Posner, *The Leadership Challenge*, "When getting extraordinary things done in organizations, leaders engage in these five practices of exemplary leadership: model the way; inspire a shared vision; challenge the process; enable others to act; and encourage the heart." Leadership in the private sector and government sector is equally important and should be self-evident. Recently we have seen a lack of leadership from our representatives in Congress. However, I'm happy to say that a culture of leadership is alive and well in the Golden Crescent region.

I recently participated in the Victoria College and Victoria Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Program. Speaking as a graduate I commend these two organizations for their commitment toward advancing leadership

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2010 - 2011
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If you are interested or would like more information about volunteering, please contact the Food Bank at 361-578-0591.

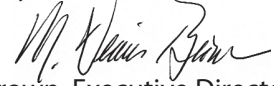
From the Desk of the Executive Director

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in our community. And Sure B.E.T. is another organization instilling leadership ideals and providing opportunities for our young people, exposing them to such concepts as "Goals and Dreams," "Success that Matters," "Servant Leadership," and "Obedience" as taught by a Team of Incredible Dogs at their Youth Leadership 2011 program. This program, sponsored by Alcoa, included a community service project involving 65 student participants and 21 team leaders in which an abundance of flowers, shrubs and six trees were planted at the Food Bank.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said it best, "It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." Leadership must be cultivated and promoted in every generation for it is the foundation of a great society.

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



M. Dennis Brown, Executive Director

Kids BackPack Program Update

The Kid's BackPack Program is growing: FBGC is grateful to the recent support and commitment of the following partners:

NGA Hooter's Pro Golf Tour: Commitment of \$26,185 from the recent golf tournament in Victoria

City of Victoria CDBG funding: \$10,000 commitment for children in the VISD

Albert and Mary Dick Charitable Foundation: \$6,000 for Victoria County

Mary Louise Dobson Foundation: \$4,500 grant to sponsor children through the Wharton Boy's & Girls Club

Twice Blessed Showroom: \$3,600 for children in Victoria County

Trull Foundation: \$2,500 grant to sponsor children at the Palacios ISD

Keating Family Foundation: \$2,000 grant for Calhoun County students

WalMart Super Store: \$1,000 toward children in Jackson County

Sandalphon Study Club: \$1,000 for children where needed

Central Church of Christ in Victoria: \$900 to purchase 300 canvas backpacks

First United Methodist Church in Victoria: \$200 for children in Victoria County

FBGC is currently committed to serving 405 children in 15 different schools in 6 counties for the 2011-2012 school year. Working in partnership with Parkway Church an additional 159 children are being served in Victoria County.

Volunteers packing BackPacks



Celebrating 25 Years of Service

Warden Kenny Rae Bright, pictured on left, presented Dennis Brown with a hand-crafted wood plaque made by inmates at the Stevenson Unit in Cuero in recognition of FBGC's 25th anniversary. Over the last five years trustees participating in the Texas Second Chance Program have served by volunteering 15,485 hours helping to rescue and put into distribution 5,621,120 pounds of food and nonfood items.



Warden Bright (L) and FBGC Executive Director Dennis Brown

FBGC is grateful for contributions from the following foundations, corporations and community events:

M.G. & Lillie A. Johnson Foundation, Inc.
\$50,000 for an emergency back-up generator

The Dow Chemical Company
\$8,000 matching grant for the back-up generator

The O'Connor Hewitt Foundation
\$9,000 to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables

HEB Souper Bowl of Caring - \$3,000

Victoria Community College Empty Bowls - \$2,500

Victoria Firefighter's Association & DelPapa Distributing
(proceeds to be determined)

Seadrift Koch - \$450

Woodsmen of the World - \$300

Texas Vocational School - \$170

Carl C. and Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation
\$5,000 for the Food Rescue Program



Victoria Firefighter's Association Golf Tournament; (Left to Right) Taner Drake (Victoria's new Fire Chief), Spencer Drake, Dale Loewen and Troy Macintosh.



Twice Blessed Consignment Shop: L-R: Kathy Bowen (board president), Ramona Hollan (FBGC Director of Resource Development), Ronnie Hillin (board member), and Dennis Brown (FBGC Executive Director).

Upcoming Events



Sweetheart Charity Ball: Come Join the Fun

L-R: Dennis Brown (ED), LuAnn & T. Michael O'Connor (Co-Chairs), and Gary Moses (Master of Ceremonies).

The Zombie Walk, benefiting FBGC is scheduled for Saturday, October 1, 2011 on Main Street in downtown Victoria. For more information go to: www.wix.com/mrkennethhawkins/zombieism.

Halliburton Charity Golf Tournament Thursday, October 6, 2011, Kingwood Country Club, 1700 Lake Kingwood Trail, Kingwood, TX 77339 (FBGC is one of a number of organizations that will benefit). For more information go to: www.halliburtoncharitygolf.org.

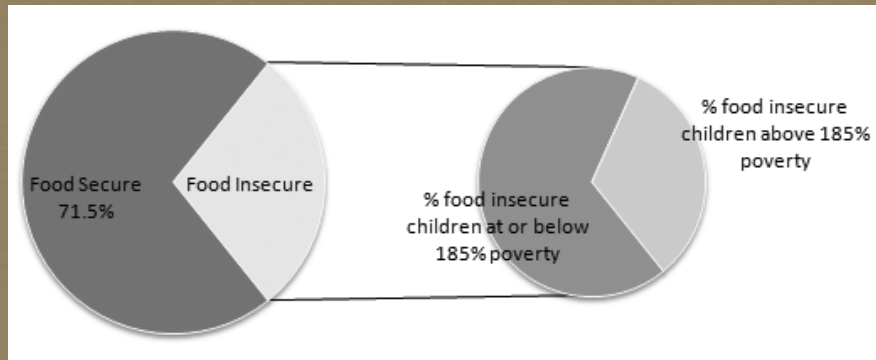
2011 "Scouting for Food" Food Drive Oct. 29th - Nov. 5th
For more information contact Bart Gentry at 316-816-3815

Mark your calendars now for the 2012 Sweetheart Charity Ball sponsored by H.E.B. Tuesday, February 14, 2012 the Fabulous Rick Perkins Band will return for a repeat performance at the Spring Creek Event Center.

Map the Meal Gap 2009: Child Food Insecurity Service Area Overview

Food Bank of the Golden Crescent

| | |
|--|--------|
| Population under 18 Years Old | 76,801 |
| Child Food insecurity rate (2009) | 28.5% |
| Estimated number of food insecure children | 21,860 |



*A child (under 18 years old) is defined as being food insecure if he or she lives in a household experiencing food insecurity. The food insecurity measures here are derived from the measures of food insecurity found in the nationally representative Current Population Survey. Since 1995, those measures have been calculated from responses to a series of questions about conditions and behaviors known to characterize households having difficulty meeting basic food needs. For more details about how food insecurity is calculated, see Nord, M., Andrews, M. & Carlson, S. "Household Food Security in the United States, 2009." U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service: Washington D.C. 2010.

**Program eligibility for child hunger programs such as National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast, and other federal nutrition programs is determined in part by these income thresholds. These thresholds vary by state.

This research is generously supported by ConAgra Foods Foundation and is based on Map the Meal Gap: Food Insecurity Estimates at the County Level, supported by the Howard G. Buffett Foundation

The



of a Good Will

Everyone agrees that having a will is important. But just having a will isn't enough, it needs to be good – legally binding, up-to-date, easily amended, and a true reflection of your wishes in order to provide you with peace of mind.

So what does it take to be a "good will?"

A "good will" is accurate. It will follow all legal requirements of your state, it is prepared and signed according to those requirements, and it outlines how your estate should be distributed. A good will also provides for the guardianship of your children or pets, the transfer of business interests, it states any other final declarations you want or need to make, and it covers any other important matters that your situation may require. When you have accomplished all this, and safely stored the original and a copy, you will take comfort in knowing it was done correctly.

A "good will" is benevolent. A good will does good. It addresses the needs of your spouse, your children and other dependents. It provides for the needs of anyone who is in your circle of responsibility. It may also provide for charitable organizations that reflect your values and address causes you support.

A "good will" is current. This cannot be stressed enough, your will should be updated as needed to reflect changing circumstances. Changes constantly occur in the tax laws, in your family situation, in your financial situation. For example, your young children may now be adults and not need a guardian to be named in your will. You may have grandchildren. Someone close to you may have died or become dependent on your support. Many professionals recommend reviewing your will annually to ensure that it is up-to-date.

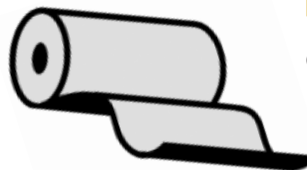
As with all charitable contributions, please consult your financial advisor for advice concerning your specific situation.

Food Drive Update:

Thank you Victoria Advocate!
721 pounds of food was donated at the "Taste of Victoria" program.

For information about running a food drive contact Ramona Hollan at 361-578-0591

New on the Market



Good4Texas paper towels are now available at your WalMart stores. A portion of each sale will benefit FBGC and 18 other food banks presently serving Texas.