

Grants received since we last spoke...

- **Grainger Foundation**...\$5,000...in support of our mobile food pantry program
- **Panera Bread Foundation**...\$4,920...general support
- **Publix Super Markets Charities**...\$5,000...for the purchase of a 3-door display cooler
- **Walmart Foundation**...\$3,250...general support through the Volunteerism Always Pays program (thanks to the WDC employees for their hard work)
- **Wells Fargo Foundation**...\$8,000...in support of our mobile food pantry program
- **Charter Foundation**...\$5,000...customer voting grant.



Moore's Hill Club
TURKEY TROT 2010

Thanks to all who participated in this Thanksgiving Day event which raised funding for more than 29,390 meals.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING
IN THIS YEAR'S TURKEY TROT.
A TOTAL OF \$2,675 WAS RAISED
WHICH ENABLED THE FOOD BANK
TO PROVIDE MORE THAN 29,390 MEALS
TO PEOPLE IN NEED.

*Warm wishes for a season
full of peace and joy*

FOOD BANK OF EAST ALABAMA ♦ 375 INDUSTRY DRIVE, AUBURN, AL 36832

LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS
OR WISH TO JOIN US IN THE FIGHT TO END HUNGER IN EAST CENTRAL ALABAMA.
IT IS A JOURNEY WORTH UNDERTAKING.

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Food Bank of East Alabama
375 Industry Drive
Auburn, Alabama 36832



FEEDING *the* HUNGRY



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FOOD BANK OF EAST ALABAMA

WINTER 2010


BY THE NUMBERS...

Alabama is No. 1, and it's not in something to be proud of. The state has the highest percentage in the nation of people who go hungry. We're an affluent nation and, in many ways, an affluent state. Some Alabama ZIP codes are as wealthy as any in the country.

But there are many more poor ZIP codes. With a poverty rate of 16.8 percent, there are many Alabamians, adults and children, who go to bed hungry. That is underscored by the fact that more than half of the state's school children receive free or reduced-price lunches in school.

The USDA report is all about numbers, but what we must remember is that each of those numbers is a person. And often, those numbers are children.

Here's one number: nearly 7 percent of Alabama households experienced hunger over the past three years because parents couldn't afford enough food. That's the highest percentage in the country.


Here are more numbers: that 7 percent translates into about 126,500 households. That's households, not individuals. 

(Birmingham News 12/3/10)

Store Donation Program

Through the Store Donation Program and the efforts of our national network of food banks—Feeding America—we have formed valuable partnerships with the local grocery stores throughout our service area. This partnership includes: Sam's Club, 4 Walmart stores, 3 Winn-Dixie stores, Publix, 2 Kroger stores, Earth Fare and Target. Each of these stores has joined this program to do their part in helping those in their communities—those who cannot provide adequately for their families.

One of the big keys to the success of this program is the staff at each store who facilitate the donations, and a good example is Donna May at the Auburn Walmart store. Donna puts a great deal of effort into facilitating these donations, and when asked what motivates her, the response is simple: "It feeds people who are hungry." This motivation is clearly seen in the food donations from virtually every food department in her store.

As we experience a significant decrease in donated product from the national food bank network, local store donations are becoming very important in our fight against hunger. We see only good things coming out of the blending of altruism of the stores and the people involved in arranging the donations. We understand the extra time, trouble and cost of implementing and maintaining an operation like the store donation program, and we applaud and thank all the partnering stores for their enthusiastic commitment to this worthwhile cause. 

*"It feeds people
who are hungry."*

— Donna May



Thank You

**Thanks to all who generously supported our mission.
A full listing of donors will be included in the next newsletter.**

DID YOU KNOW....




There's a thin line between hunger and a week of meals for a local family.

With our high efficiency rate, a full 94.2 cents of every dollar you provide will go directly to assist the hungry of East Central Alabama. Please consider an end of year tax-deductible gift and help feed hungry families.

"The hunger problem is just a manifestation of the real problem—poverty. This is why the majority of pantry clients don't come to us as an answer to some mythical three day hunger crisis, but rather as part of their overall survival strategy. Their cash expenses are greater than their cash income, and we help bridge the gap. The real enemy is poverty and what we really do is help extend incomes so poor people can better make ends meet."

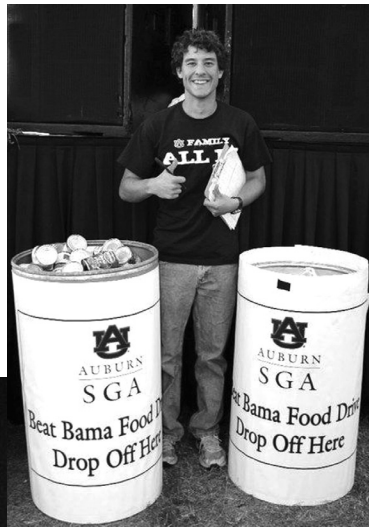
-Brian Greene,
New Orleans Food Bank

AUBURN GANS 'BAMA IN FOOD DRIVE

When the final pound of food was weighed in the biggest food drive of the year, Auburn University came out victorious with an amazing 234,116 pounds to Alabama's 218,510 pounds. While we are always happy for a victory in this food drive, we truly understand that the real winners of this competition are the people who are fed by the donated food through the West Alabama Food Bank and the Food Bank of East Alabama. The food drive included a "Virtual Food Drive" that allowed out-of-town supporters to donate on-line to support their school. A huge "thanks" goes to Melanie Smith who coordinated this food drive for the Auburn University SGA. 



Collection barrels were placed around campus.



Jessica Epperson and Melanie Smith get help from Aubie in collecting cans.



Phi Beta Lambda of Southern Union really outdid themselves by donating more than two tons of food!



DO YOU RECOGNIZE THE FACE OF

SENIOR HUNGER?

She may look fine. But in fact, she's hungry. Research has shown that many of the men and women most in need of food assistance aren't sick, destitute or living in remote areas. Mostly they're our neighbors. And they need our help. That's why, since 1997 the Food Bank has been providing monthly supplementary groceries to low-income seniors through the Brown Bag Program. Enrollment is at an all-time high and we now have more than 570 senior households in the Lee County Brown Bag program and a total of 1,400 senior households in the seven senior brown bag programs we supply each month. Want to help? \$80 sponsors a senior for a year.