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THC Newsletter
January 2018



Dear <<First Name>>,



Not only am I looking back on the last year, I'm looking back on the last fifteen. This year marks our fifteenth anniversary as an organization and my, how we've grown.

In fifteen years, you've helped us grow from a band-aid, scraping together a few food boxes each month, to a sophisticated movement toward food justice.

Whether it's in the people we serve, the quality of our programs, or all that springs from [The Hope Garden](#) and [Bloom Community Farm](#), our story is defined by growth. Each year, you've fed this growth. In fact, in the last quarter of 2017, your generosity helped accelerate this growth.

The momentum of the last fifteen years made possible

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a record 2017 where we didn't simply feed a lot of people, but we built community through food. Thinking about how we've gotten to this point makes looking ahead that much sweeter. Everything you've helped us accomplish to date makes us uniquely positioned to push the envelope this year.

We hope you will [join us to kick off the year in support of community with one of the most beloved local events: Empty Bowls.](#)

Your commitment over the years has helped turn the page to such an exciting chapter of our story. Thank you. [We look forward to the adventure ahead.](#)

With Gratitude,

Jeanne Liston, Executive Director

A LOOK BACK AT 2017



photo courtesy of Jay Graham

2017 was an exceptionally full year. Bags of fresh harvest were filled at the farm while grocery carts were piled high with a colorful array of every food group. From bags and carts to pots and pans to plates and bowls, community tables were full of wholesome food from The Hunger Coalition. Every plant, every veggie, every meal, and every person who accessed our services was

LUMINARIES
GENEROUS LIGHT

THE GENEROSITY OF
CARITAS CHORALE

IMPACT REPORT



2017 IMPACT
REPORT

LOCAL SUPPORT



Thanks to these local businesses and organizations for your support in December!

Grants

The Papoose Club
\$2,500 in support of
Infant Formula
Initiative

Businesses

Cimaron Lofting
\$500

Donahue McNamara
Steel LLC
\$5000

Gilman Contemporary
\$500

Just look at the remarkable numbers recorded in 2017 and imagine what more is possible in the coming year.

- The Mobile Food Bank filled 6,603 grocery carts for 1,639 community members.
- Over 5,639 Snack Packs were given out to 187 school kids, to ensure they don't go hungry on the weekends.
- Nearly 5,000 lunches were distributed this summer through our Summer Food Program.
- 4,500 bottles worth of formula were distributed through our Infant Formula Initiative.
- Families were able to keep their pets thanks to the Paws for Hunger program, in partnership with the Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley. This year, 1,004 bags of pet food were distributed.
- Over 7,800 pounds of fruit and vegetables were gleaned from local trees last year!
- 224 Volunteer for Veggies participants, eight Bloom Youth Project interns, and supporting staff helped harvest over 7,500 pounds of fresh fruits and veggies from Bloom Community Farm and The Hope Garden.

Thank you to everyone who supported this record year!

JOIN US FOR EMPTY BOWLS



**8TH ANNUAL
EMPTY BOWLS**

Food is Hope

FREE lunch with your purchase of a \$20 handmade ceramic bowl!
Enjoy hearty soup, chili, salad, bread, and dessert from local chefs.

SPONSORED BY:
BOULDER MOUNTAIN
CLAYWORKS

**Sunday, January 14
noon- 2:00 p.m.**

Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood

100% OF PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE HUNGER COALITION!

We hope to see you at the 8th annual Empty Bowls event to enjoy great food and great art on behalf of

- \$500
- Jill Eshman Law
\$500
- Lawson, Laski, Clark & Pogue
\$1,000
- Monge Investments
\$1,000
- Scape Design Studio
\$2,500
- S. Erwin Excavation
\$500
- St. Thomas Episcopal Church
\$500
- In-Kind
- BRJ Distributing
- Caritas Chorale
- Chartwells
- Go-Fer It Express
- Kiel Photo
- Lisa Jenner Pilates
- Sawtooth Brewery
- Sun Valley Board of Realtors
- Sun Valley Resort
- The Haven
- Food Drives
- Bellevue Elementary
- Brownie Troop
- Hailey Elementary
- Our Lady of the Snows Church
- Pioneer Federal
- POWER Engineers

The Hunger Coalition. Purchase a handmade Ceramic Bowl for \$20 and fill it with soup, chili, salad, bread, and dessert made by local chefs! All proceeds benefit The Hunger Coalition.

This signature Wood River event is made possible by the collaboration of [Boulder Mountain Clayworks](#), [Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood](#), and [The Hunger Coalition](#). If you can't attend, you can donate \$20 [here](#) to support local families and write Empty Bowls in the notes section.

PARTNER'S CORNER: THE SAGE SCHOOL



[The Sage School](#) and [The Hunger Coalition](#) are longtime partners in goodwill. We are incredibly grateful for the countless, creative ways [The Sage School](#) has given back. Whether donating food and funds from their [Hunger Awareness Month Food Drive](#) or baking pies and making cards to ensure everyone has a sweet Thanksgiving, [The Sage School](#) will stop at nothing to feed local families. Here's just a glimpse of the enduring generosity of [The Sage School](#) in 2017:

- Volunteered 965 hours combined across all of our programs
- Collected 1,471 pounds of food for their [Hunger Awareness Month Food Drive](#)
- With the leadership of Starr Weekes, baked 350 pies for Thanksgiving Baskets and made 100 holiday cards
- Gleaned 812 pounds of local produce
- Volunteered in [The Hope Garden](#) and [Bloom Community Farm](#)
- Collected donations for the [Luminaries](#)

We can't thank you enough for your service, Sage School students!

WELCOME GERRY KEARNS!

St. Thomas Church

[Washington Federal](#)

[Wells Fargo Hailey and Ketchum branches](#)

[Wood River Jewish Community](#)

[Zions Bank](#)

YEAR END APPEAL: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED



THANK YOU to everyone who donated to our year end matching challenge! Together, we exceeded the full \$25,000 of matching funds given by generous local donors to raise an astounding total of \$60,731!

With your help, we can further develop a healthy, inclusive, and just community through food in 2018. We truly appreciate the thousands of volunteer hours and donations that help fuel the movement toward food justice in Blaine County.

THANK YOU, KETCHUM KITCHENS



We're delighted to welcome longtime volunteer and community voice, Gerry Kearns to our [Board of Directors](#). Gerry's been a part of The Hunger Coalition family for over ten years and will now join us in a new capacity to help guide our organization's strategic vision.

Gerry retired from a career with [the Boeing Company](#) before moving to the Wood River Valley in 2006. He grew up in the Northwest and graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in Economic Geography. His career at Boeing spanned three decades with a progression of job experiences ranging from customer service, sales, head of Commercial Airplane Contracts and Vice President and General Manager of the Materiel Division. Gerry and his wife, Kaye had always loved spending time in Sun Valley and decided to retire here. It has been the perfect spot to pursue Gerry's favorite pastimes: skiing, golfing, and fly fishing. Still, he says one of his most rewarding experiences has been volunteering for The Hunger Coalition. Over the past ten years, Gerry has collected food, been a mobile food distributor, fundraiser, and spokesperson for The Hunger Coalition.



All of that holiday shopping at the beautifully renovated Ketchum Kitchens paid off! Between the generous gift of owners, John Melin and Monica Williams, and 10% of proceeds on a special shopping day last month, you helped bring in \$3,692 to support good food for all in our community. Thank you, Monica and John and all of the savvy shoppers!

WE'RE HIRING!



We're hiring a Farm Assistant and a Bloom Youth Education Coordinator to round out our dynamic team.

[Check out the job descriptions here](#) and share widely!

GROCERY RESCUE
SAVES THE DAY

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Support PCBW in
THE SOUPER BOWL!
for the Hunger Coalition

Feb 3-4

Campbell's Healthy Request

On Super Bowl weekend (February 3-4), PCBW has been challenged to some friendly competition by St. Thomas Episcopal, Our Lady of the Snows, and the LDS parishes of the Wood River Valley to see who can bring in the most canned soups for the Hunger Coalition. While the real goal is help provide for those in need in our Valley, the winning congregation will be bringing home the first Wood River Valley Souper Bowl trophy!

Bring your soups to PCBW's Family Skate Night (Feb. 3) or to church on Sunday morning (Feb. 4). For those for whom bringing soups to church is difficult, Atkinsons will be taking pre-paid orders and delivering them to the donor's church on Sunday morning.

While all canned soups will be accepted, the Hunger Coalition suggests the following because of their nutritional value:

Campbell's Healthy Request	Amy's Kitchen
Healthy Choice	Annies
Campbell's Well Yes	Pacific
Progresso Reduced Sodium	Health Valley Organic
Progresso Light	Imagine

Local churches are competing to see who can collect the most canned soup to donate to The Hunger Coalition for their inaugural Souper Bowl Sunday. If you belong to St. Thomas Episcopal, Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood, Our Lady of the Snows, or the LDS parishes of the Wood River Valley, the heat is on!

Thank you to all participating churches for adding a compassionate activity to the traditional Super Bowl festivities.



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Local grocers in the Wood River Valley rescued an amazing 48,272 pounds of food from their stores to ensure all good food ends up in the hands of someone who can enjoy it.

Special thanks to Atkinsons', Albertsons, Natural Grocers, Village Market, and Bigwood Bread for feeding this essential initiative.

LUMINARIES LIGHT UP THE NIGHT!



Thank you Lee Dabney and The Sage School for raising \$1,039 in Holiday Luminaries this year!

This was Lee's 13th year selling luminaries and we are in awe of her dedication and generosity!

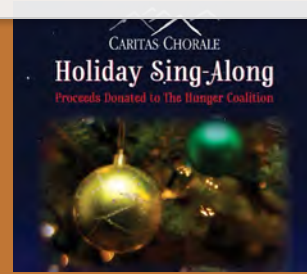
THE GENEROUS
VOICES OF CARITAS

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CHORALE



The Holiday Sing-a-Long was a big success this year. These generous vocalists gifted more than \$1,667 in donations from attendees and Caritas Chorale members!

Thank you for using your talents to feed more families this season.