

At the Table

Providing food and hope across our community.



"This place and the people are really nice. That kindness matters — it turns a hard day into a hopeful one."

— Shawna

Shawna's fresh start

The alarm goes off early, and Shawna starts doing the quiet math in her head that so many working families know by heart: What's in the fridge? What's left until payday? And how can I stretch both when our week includes a toddler at the table?

She and her boyfriend both work as courier package handlers, doing what they can to keep their hours steady. But some weeks — when schedules get lean and ends don't meet — they find it impossible to keep food on the table for them and their little girl.

That's when this working family visits partner sites like Sparks United Methodist Church Food Pantry — where they receive both physical

and emotional nourishment.

"We come here every other week," said Shawna. "We get a great variety of food. This place and the people are really nice. That kindness matters — it turns a hard day into a hopeful one. It helps neighbors like me ask for help before a tough season becomes a crisis."

Trying to make ends meet

Shawna moved to the Reno/Sparks area about a year ago to begin a new chapter. After moving in with her boyfriend, the pantry started as a practical answer to a practical problem: "We were just kind of iffy with food," she explained.

But the two working adults make just

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Letter From Nicole



Dear friends and neighbors,

Hunger in the communities we serve is real, rising, and demands more than good intentions.

Since 2020, needs have risen dramatically. We currently serve an average of 150,000 neighbors monthly, a 70% increase since 2019.

Neighbor-centered strategic plan

In response, I'm pleased to share that for the past 15 months we have engaged in an exciting strategic planning process. Our 10-year strategic plan is a bold framework for achieving meaningful impacts.

Shaped by listening to neighbors, partners, donors, and community leaders, it reflects opportunities to not only respond to hunger, but also to reduce it by 20% through community-driven solutions that strengthen dignity, reliability, and long-term stability.

The goal is ambitious yet grounded by what our community needs and deserves. It is because of generous supporters like you that our work today — and strategic vision for tomorrow — are possible.

With gratitude and determination,

Nicole Lamboley

Nicole Lamboley
President & CEO

Partner Spotlight: Sparks United Methodist Church

Jen and Wayne, co-directors of the Sparks United Methodist Church Pantry, demonstrate how partnership and personal calling come together to nourish neighbors.

At Sparks United Methodist Church Pantry, hunger relief means early mornings, extra hands, and the unwavering choice to keep showing up. Our partners, Jen and Wayne, work tirelessly to ensure the pantry doors open to a welcoming space for every family, senior, and individual in need.

Two neighbors spark a sense of community

Jen's story began in 2019, during a difficult period. Remembering the advice to "serve someone else" when feeling low, Jen found purpose through volunteering. When invited to help start the pantry, she eagerly said yes — a decision that led to weekly food distributions and a commitment to treat everyone with dignity.

Wayne's journey started when the pantry was just a cabinet. As community needs grew, so did the pantry. After retirement and during COVID-19, Wayne found meaning in service, calling his work a blessing and cherishing the camaraderie with volunteers. Wayne also now serves on the Food Bank Board of Directors.

Together, Jen and Wayne manage volunteers and keep shelves stocked, always focused on dignity and a warm welcome. They count on Food Bank of Northern Nevada donors to keep the pantry a lifeline as more neighbors seek help.



JEN



WAYNE

For neighbors in Sparks struggling to put food on the table, your support means they can bring home groceries, find some relief, and know their community cares. **Please consider giving today.**



SHAWNA

(continued from the cover)

Shawna's fresh start

over the limit to qualify for food stamps. It's a common cliff for working families: earning for today but still one missed shift, one long drive, or one unexpected expense away from an empty refrigerator.

Because many of our partner pantry hours overlap with her family's work schedule, Shawna has learned to plan carefully — choosing programs that fit around shifts, including a Wednesday morning pantry that doesn't conflict with their schedule.

"It helps neighbors like me ask for help before a tough season becomes a crisis."

— Shawna

Shawna is quick to name what help makes the biggest difference for her family: "The meat, produce, bread, and milk," she said. "Canned food can be easier to purchase on a tight

budget. But when the pantry has the more expensive or rare items, it makes things way better."

Coming together — as a community

Your support fills the shelves, refrigerators, and freezers of our partner pantries with nourishing foods that stretch paychecks and support healthy growth — especially for children.

And the impact ripples outward. When her boyfriend's mom faced a temporary job loss, Shawna brought her to the pantry at Sparks United Methodist Church too — because she knows how quickly things can change and how much it helps to have somewhere to turn.

When you give, you help keep northern Nevada and the eastern Sierra in California healthy and hopeful — one grocery bag, one family, and one fresh start at a time.

Please help more neighbors like Shawna. Visit fbnn.org to give now.

Program Spotlight: Truckee Meadows Community College

Through your gifts, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada is proud to partner with Truckee Meadows Community College to support students through campus food pantries.

Each of TMCC's four campuses now has a food pantry offering students a wide variety of groceries and snacks.

Katie, the college's onsite pantry coordinator, describes the on-the-ground needs for accessible food she sees:

"Many students, some with families, struggle to afford groceries in the area and often can't hold another job," Katie shared. "But thanks to generous donors, the pantry provides snacks and meal options, ensuring students can focus on their studies and families without worrying about their next meal. **Together, we're making a big difference.**"



KATIE



YEVONNE

Meanwhile, YeVonne, Vice President of Student Services, added an additional, perspective of how your donations impact young lives:

"Students at Truckee Meadows Community College openly share their struggles with situational poverty and food insecurity," she shared. "The partnership with the Food Bank of Northern Nevada is vital, providing expanded services and fresh options that make a real difference in students' lives."

Thank you to the compassionate staff and supporters of these critical campus collaborations. **We're so grateful for your support.**"

Help more neighbors get the nourishing food they need!
Visit fbnn.org to give now.

Scan Here ►
to help more
families now!



Your Impact



Food for more than
23.1 million meals
distributed last year.



Over **150,000**
neighbors supported
because of your giving.



More than **140 partner agencies** distributing
food to children, seniors
and individuals.



A **dedicated nutrition team** and programs like Food is Medicine helping those we serve make nourishing decisions — thanks to you!

THANK YOU *esteemed grant partners*

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Feeding America
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