



Food FOR Thought

Fresh News on Food Rescue And Hunger Relief

WINTER 2019

30 Reasons To Look Forward In 2019

Last year definitely had its share of tension and challenges, as many of you surely experienced personally and in a community or business sense. As I'm writing this, our government is struggling with shutdowns and food banks and assistance organizations are feeling the weight of it all. While we capped off the year feeling like we accomplished a heap, hunger never sleeps, so we persist.

On a positive note, our year-end outcomes were rewarding – we reached all of our goals or came mighty close. We rescued nearly 10 million pounds of food, and partnered with many new food donors and recipient agencies. That leads us right into the exciting news that this year is...(drumroll please)

Food Finders' 30th Anniversary!

Yes, we've hit a big milestone, and we've got some big plans to go with it, including:

- **30th Anniversary fundraiser** – More on our April \$30,000 campaign to come
- **Implementing streamlined logistics technology** – With so much food being donated, we look forward to making our operations more efficient
- **Planning an office move for 2020** – We're outgrowing our office and warehouse and our lease ends next year
- **Rescuing 12 million pounds of food!** – More food means more meals and a busy year



We need your ongoing support to ensure our trucks continue to roll and our Food Rescue Program thrives in meeting the needs of our community members. Please know that we appreciate every dollar, volunteer hour and pound of food you send our way and are looking forward to a fantastic year of reducing hunger and food waste.

Check our website and social media for updates, campaign news and how you can get involved.

Have any vintage Food Finders photos or stories from the past you'd like to share? Email us, plarson@foodfinders.org. We'd love to hear from you and add to the timeline.

- Patti Larson, Executive Director



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It Happened in 1989...

- George W. Bush is sworn in as President of the U.S.
- The SF 49ers win the Super Bowl and the Oakland A's win the World Series
- Die Hard hits movie theaters, while Rain Man wins for Best Picture
- Mikhail Gorbachev is Time Magazine's Person of the Year
- Tianenmen Square Protests happen in Beijing and the Berlin Wall falls
- Stephen Hawking's "A Brief History of Time" hits bookshelves
- A postage stamp is 25 cents
- The Bay Area has a 7.1 earthquake
- Long Beach population exceeds 420,000
- Food Finders is conceived!



Food Finders Founder, Arlene Mercer

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 1-30

30th Anniversary Campaign

May 11

**Stamp Out Hunger
Postal Food Drive**

**June - August
Summer To
End Hunger Drive**

**June 8
Blue Martini Ball**

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:



Ivy M.

Ivy is a local high school student who has volunteered at Food Finders regularly over the last year or two. Ivy came to us as part of a freshman group school project she was doing on organizations that help the community, and she's continued with us into her sophomore year on her own. She generally helps in the warehouse, sorting food, packing bags and loading boxes, but has also started helping in the office. She enjoys being able to give back to the community and also likes learning some business skills. When she's not volunteering, she attends school, competes on the swim team, and hangs out at the beach. We're so glad we can engage local students at Food Finders, and we value her time and support. Thank you, Ivy!

We're Teaming Up

Food Finders is excited to announce our newly revamped Team 25...now Team 30! For those who joined for our 25th anniversary, you're still part of a very appreciated group of ongoing supporters. We're asking existing members to upgrade their giving levels to \$30 or more per month for our 30th Anniversary, which many of you already have. If you would like to become a new sustaining member, our Team 30 launch is happening now—see FoodFinders.org for more info and to begin an online membership. This ongoing Team support is crucial to our Food Rescue program to keep our operations running all year long.



Food Drives, Fundraising and Many People Fed



Many Thanks To Our Recent Donors

Ralphs/Kroger Corporate
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Dan Murphy Foundation
CalRecycle
Keown Trust
Schnurmacher Foundation
Hearst Foundation
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Grainger
Kaiser Permanente-South Bay
Borchard Foundation
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Remley Family
Schmitz Family
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