



Meals for Millions and Hunger Relief Advocate Initiative 2014 Annual Report

Society of St. Andrew

Background:

In 1998 the Society of St. Andrew joined with the General Commission on United Methodist Men and the National Association of Conference Presidents to establish the *Hunger Relief Advocate Initiative*. This joint effort, called the HRA Initiative, is designed to help the United Methodist Church engage in ministry to and with the poor and hungry under leadership of United Methodist Men. Hunger Relief Advocates (HRAs) are charged with:

- (1) Establishing and administering gleanings networks to provide food directly to those in need locally;
- (2) Raising awareness of the extent of hunger in America and training in the development of local anti-hunger programs;
- (3) Championing UMMen participation in the *Meals for Millions* giving program that provides funding for the HRA Initiative;
- (4) Serving as an education and action resource for the church on hunger relief and poverty issues; and
- (5) Engaging in other hunger relief activities.

The ultimate goal of the *Hunger Relief Advocate Initiative* is to feed America's hungry through a network of part-time HRAs in every state plus volunteer advocates in every UMMen district and each local UMMen's group.

When fully implemented, UMMen will provide some 54,000,000 servings of food to the nation's poor through their *Meals for Millions* contributions that support the Society of St. Andrew's *Potato Project*. In addition, UMMen will provide another 90,000,000 servings of food annually through the gleanings ministries established by HRAs.

2014 Conference HRA Status and Results:

The HRA status on December 31, 2014 is shown in table 1. These 19 HRAs are comprised of a mixture of volunteers and those who receive a modest stipend. Both types of HRAs are extremely important in accomplishing the objectives of the HRA Initiative.

In 2014, these committed servants led 2,320 volunteers into farmers' fields to pick up 748,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious surplus food for America's hungry. At the same time, through their *Meals for Millions* contributions, United Methodist Men provided another 8.2 million servings of fresh produce (in direct relief to the hungry) through SoSA's *Potato Project*.

2014 Finances:

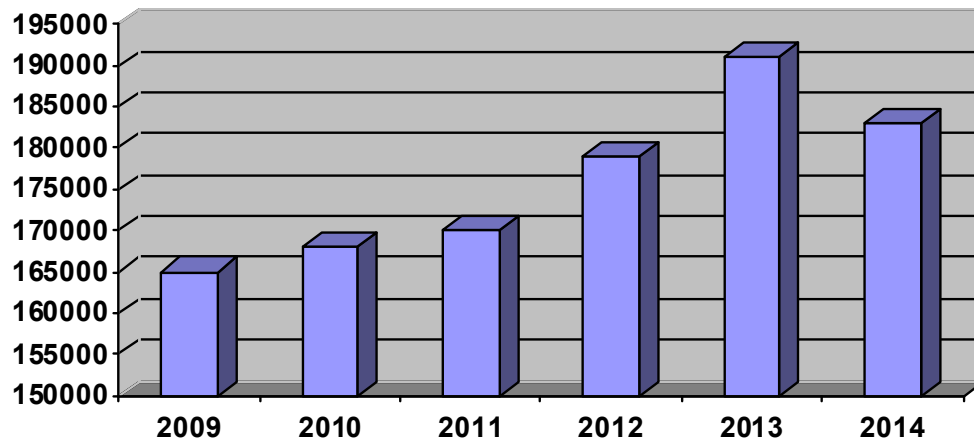
The *Meals for Millions* contributions in 2014 went down slightly for the first time in four years. We are working on growing contributions again in 2015.

Table 1: HRA Status

2014 Conference HRAs	
Arkansas	Rev. Terry Sager
South Georgia	Art Shoemaker
Iowa	Art Kistler
North Georgia	Steve Hart
North Carolina	Allen Shaver
Illinois Great River	Steve Liehr
Indiana	David McCleary
Kansas East	David Toler
Detroit	Howard Christian
Nebraska	Mike Shambaugh-Miller
Upper New York	John Conklin Dean Burdick
East Ohio	Ronnie Wendell
West Ohio	George Jensen
Oklahoma	George Cockrum
Southwest Texas	Walt Gowan
West Virginia	Wayne Custer
Virginia	Wade Mays
Louisiana	Sonny Evans

The Society of St. Andrew is very grateful for every donation to our ministry and we wish to recognize United Methodist Men not only for their generosity but also for their faithfulness in supporting *Meals for Millions*. We would also like to thank the leadership of the GCUMM and the NACP for their unwavering support of our ministry.

Table 2: Meals for Millions Contributions 2009 – 2014



2015 Goals:

The Society of St. Andrew with the help of our wonderful volunteers has provided over 34 million servings of food this year. All of that food is proving to be critical as the number of people in need continues to grow. We're stepping out in faith moving this increased amount of food and you can help us keep that fresh produce moving to the tables of America's hungry.

Just as those who we serve rely on us to provide them the food they need to live healthy lives free from hunger, we continue to rely on United Methodist Men to continue to support us. We challenge every Conference this year to gain 20 new Challenge Fellowships. Also, we will invite individual UMMen to become Challenge Disciples and make a personal commitment to help bring hunger in America to an end, to the glory of God. We welcome any suggestions from the GCUMM on how we might increase the giving to the *Meals for Millions* Initiative by UMMen.

The growth of the HRA Initiative in the form of additional Conference HRAs and more food being delivered to the hungry relies on continued growth in *Meals for Millions* contributions by United Methodist Men. We are very thankful for the continued support to help end hunger here in America.

Contact Information:

Wade Mays
National *Meals for Millions* Director
Society of St. Andrew
3383 Sweet Hollow Road
Big Island, VA 24526

Phone: 434.299.5956
800.333.4597
Email: wade@EndHunger.org
Website: www.EndHunger.org