She found herself in rural Alabama with a bunch of newly–found friends learning about hunger and waste, and picking black–eyed peas for the hungry people of that rural area. And she wasn't from that area – by any stretch.

Dr. Lesley Huffaker, a resident of the San Diego area, is a grandma, cancer survivor, and retired special ed teacher specializing in advocating for kids with dyslexia. At church one Sunday morning in 2008, she read a flyer about Society of St. Andrew – it was the first time she'd heard of our organization. The mission of feeding our hungry neighbors through gleaning really resonated with her, and she felt compelled to learn more. After a long phone conversation with a SoSA staff member, she decided to participate in a Harvest of Hope inter-generational weekend.

The closest event, and one that it into her calendar, took her to a town south of Birmingham, AL. She wound her way through the back roads to find the YMCA lodge where the group would be staying. She met the other participants, which included a youth group from Northern Indiana, and other people who, like her, felt called to do their part in eradicating hunger and malnourishment in America. They were together for a short weekend, but it was filled with powerful education, service, and worship. They left with relationships that would last for years.

Harvest of Hope, one of SoSA's core programs, is a mission/service experience designed to engage participants in the issues of hunger and waste, and help them make a commitment to being part of the solution moving forward. Held in a variety of locations (wherever there's gleaning, affordable facilities, and interest available), there are events for senior high groups, middle school groups, alternative spring breaks for college students, and inter-generational.
At the beginning of each year, most people “look back” before they start “looking ahead” to what the New Year might bring. Try not to race over the year-end statistics you see to the left, because these are your accomplishments. It was a great year for SoSA, but it simply wouldn’t have happened without the faithful support of our many partners. And remember, it was all done at just a couple of pennies per serving!

We get so used to hearing fantastic results like this from SoSA that we forget that no other organization in the country achieves this in the way that SoSA does. You are part of something unique, amazing, and successful. Thank you.

Looking ahead to this year, SoSA is already fully engaged. In a typical January and February, SoSA saves and distributes three million pounds of food and conducts 290 gleaning events – in the middle of winter!

That doesn’t happen without you. Your faithful partnership translates directly into faithful help for the hungry all year long. It makes a big difference to Twin Lakes Farm in Wisconsin, which is able to donate left-over crops to feed those in need. It makes a difference to Lee Memorial Church in Mississippi, which is able to send volunteers to glean fields. It makes a difference to the Nashville Food Project which uses the produce to cook healthy meals for the homeless on the streets. Know that the difference you make is multiplied through thousands of farmers, tens of thousands of volunteers, and thousands of vital feeding programs all across the country.

It all happens because you care – “in deed and in truth.”

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**2014 Year-end Statistics**

**Fresh food saved and donated to feed the hungry:**

- Gleaned Produce: 18,215,593 lbs
- Potato & Produce Project: 10,378,640 lbs
- Events: 4,995
- Volunteers: 32,638

**Total Pounds:** 28,594,233  
**Total Servings:** 85,782,699

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**Recent Donations**

**In Honor Of**
- Emmaus Reunion Group of Eastern Shore
- Ray & JoAnna Buchanan
- Ray Buchanan
- Helen Crosby
- Nan Carmack Cryster & Family
- The Kenneth Eagle Family
- Manasa Kota
- Xochilt Marcela
- David McCleary
- Joselyn Zohar
- Padilla Paguaga
- Pavan Pasupuleti
- Ashley Stacy
- Flores Perlas
- Dayana Rizo
- Bill Tinker
- Bill Walker
- Dr. Kyle Wheeler

**In Memory Of**
- Bobby Arehart
- Carl Breitinger
- James Burnette
- Dorothy Camp
- Lewis and Dot Camp
- Della Craven
- Bud Curtis
- Nell C. Doby
- H. R. Graham, Jr.
- Frances Griffith
- Nina Cauthorn Jarvis
- Robert Johnson
- Robert Lear
- Alfred Lester
- Joseph Mayer
- Marion & Marjorie Newman
- Jean Arehart Patterson
- Ryan Shoaf
- Leonard R. Stephenson
- Dorcas Taylor
- Elizabeth “Betty” Tongue
- Timothy Lane Tucker
weekends (in which Lesley participated). Each event incorporates small and large group discussions about hunger and waste, field gleaning and interfaith worship – culminating with each participant making a covenant to make a difference when they return home. Harvest of Hope is an introduction to service.

Lesley returned to California on fire – ready to make a difference. The next summer, during Vacation Bible School at her church, Foothills UMC in La Mesa, CA, SoSA was chosen as the mission program for the week-long offering the children collected each day. “One little boy brought his piggy bank to share in the group gathering time, and spilled out 37 dollars,” exclaimed Lesley. “All the kids got inspired, so much so that the total for SoSA that week came to an even $1,000.00! Hunger was talked about a lot that week.”

That fire hasn’t died down in the years since her introduction to SoSA. Lesley has encouraged others in her church to get involved in the fight against hunger,

“When people understand the very low operating costs of SoSA, they become very excited to realize how possible it is to feed so many hungry people”

and is actively working to get even more activity going. Last year, her family used the SoSA Christmas Cards, helping friends learn more about the opportunity to make an impact through this organization. She tells everyone she can about SoSA and the difference they can make in the lives of those in need, and works to connect leaders of organizations and churches with our mission, in hopes they’ll expand the work even further. In addition, she submits devotions for the SoSA Advent and Lenten Devotionals.

“When people understand the very low operating costs of SoSA, they become very excited to realize how possible it is to feed so many hungry people,” stated Lesley when reflecting on her experience telling others about the organization. “With more and more people becoming involved in SoSA, it offers the true possibility to eradicate hunger!”

Thank you to the following foundations & corporations that donated $1,000 or more in the fourth quarter:

Alfa Foundation . . . . . . . . . . . . Montgomery, AL
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Dr. Robert R. Bowen Foundation . . . . . . . . Lynchburg, VA
Finn Family Foundation . . . . . . . . . . Marble Falls, TX
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Hill Crest Foundation Inc. . . . . . . Mountain Brook, AL
John Edward Fowler Foundation . . . . . . Bethesda, MD
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The Minnie and Bernard Lane Foundation . . Altavista, VA
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St. Marys UMC Foundation Inc. . . . . St. Marys, GA
Stewardship Foundation . . . . . . . Tacoma, WA
Williams Family Foundation . . . . . . Thomasville, GA

Including planned giving will mean more Americans will receive nutritious food for years to come.

Become a Legacy Partner

Contact Liz Sheahan at lsheahan@endhunger.org or 434-941-2322

"When people understand the very low operating costs of SoSA, they become very excited to realize how possible it is to feed so many hungry people,” stated Lesley when reflecting on her experience telling others about the organization. “With more and more people becoming involved in SoSA, it offers the true possibility to eradicate hunger!”
Gleaning is nothing new to Rebecca Page. She’s been out in the fields of North Carolina, working as our Triangle Area Gleaning Coordinator since April 2011. But she had unexpected notoriety last December when one of her gleanings was covered by the CBS Evening News.

That day, Rebecca was working with dozens of volunteers in a potato field owned by former NFL center Jason Brown. The St. Louis Rams player feed the hungry.

He got his First Fruits Farm up-and-running in 2013, and it became productive in 2014. That’s when he contacted the Society of St. Andrew, the Interfaith Food Shuttle, and the Food Bank of Eastern North Carolina. Rebecca responded with a total of 455 SoSA volunteers, gleaning the fields of First Fruits Farm on 7 days in October and November. They gathered up about 119,000 pounds of sweet potatoes and cucumbers, all quickly distributed to food banks in more than 10 counties in Eastern North Carolina. Brown hopes to contribute 200,000 pounds this year.

The story of the former NFL lineman feeding the hungry was a good one, and was covered by TV, radio, newspaper, and Internet. For Rebecca, the gleaning story was not new, but having a dedicated new farmer is very good news. We are grateful Jason Brown has joined the team of generous farmers on the front line of contributing so much help for so many.

Into the Wilderness
Daily Devotions for Lent beginning February 18th

Into the Wilderness is the theme of the Society of St. Andrew 2015 Lenten devotions and giving program. This program features 47 all-new daily meditations written by pastors and laypeople from all walks of life, exploring God’s presence in the wilderness and temptation experiences in our lives.

Order now, download materials, and sign up for daily emails at EndHunger.org/lent.
SoSA Gleaner Featured in New Documentary

The producer/director of Every Three Seconds begins his film with a grim reality: every three seconds someone on our planet dies of extreme poverty and hunger. Then, Dan Karslake shifts our attention to the tremendous potential of everyday people. He shows us five people, living ordinary lives, who have done wonderful things to improve the lives of others. It is a story of hope and inspiration.

One of the ordinary, yet extraordinary, people in the film is SoSA Gleaning Coordinator Gloria Henderson. For many years, Henderson has brought SoSA volunteers into the fields of North Carolina to help feed their neighbors in need. The documentary weaves her story with those of a young woman who founded a movement to help women war victims in Congo, a boy who raised thousands of dollars for earthquake victims in Haiti, a woman who brought microfinance to Kenya, and a young man who devised a way for used cell phones to enhance health care across Africa.

You can see Gloria Henderson’s story, and the whole documentary, on Netflix. The film can also be purchased for use in churches and other venues.  

For more info, see the Every Three Seconds website at everythreeseconds.net

#GivingTuesday Helps SoSA Feed 6 Million People

GivingTuesday is a concept only 3 years old, created as a day of giving during the holiday season. Coming right after Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday, GivingTuesday is a time to think of others.

Last GivingTuesday, December 2, many people thought of others by supporting the Society of St. Andrew. On that day, more than $81,000 was received from 394 individuals and 77 congregations, church agencies, corporations, and foundations. That is enough to distribute more than 1.3 million pounds of food.

Thanks to several generous farmers, that money is also matched at the rate of 10 pounds of potatoes per dollar, or more than 810 thousand additional pounds.

All of this will be transformed into more than 6 million servings of food that SoSA will deliver to food pantries and soup kitchens in 2015 because of the generosity seen on GivingTuesday, a day of blessing for so many.

Farm Boy Brands

Thank you to Farm Boy Brands, who raised awareness of SoSA's work on their 26,000 strong Facebook page. By creating an online campaign, they helped people learn more about hunger and waste in this country. This Minnesota-based company creates spirited, trend-right t-shirts and other gear that pay tribute to the heartfelt pride and meaningful connections of farming and rural life. Thanks Brian and Dan, for all you’ve done!
Quarterly REPORT
Endhunger.org

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For information about SoSA programs call 800-333-4597 • sosainfo@EndHunger.org • EndHunger.org

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EndHunger.org/signup