



# Society of St. Andrew

## GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

# Quarterly Report

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## Finding Hope & Opportunity in a Tough Season

**G**enesis had worked all season to make the plants reach their maximum potential and those plants yielded far more than she could eat or sell. She really hoped to donate the food, so she figured she would just call a nonprofit and they would come to the farm to get it.

After looking up local hunger-relief agencies and making calls, Genesis was surprised by the less-than-enthusiastic responses. She assumed an offer of free, high-quality fresh produce with a good shelf life would spark instant enthusiasm in anyone that answered the phone.

Finally, one group agreed to take the food and told her she could deliver it

next Tuesday at 10 a.m. This wasn't going to work. Genesis had intended for someone to come take it from the farm. And Tuesday was a week away— she needed the food off of her farm sooner.

She and her husband were trying to run their small farm business and did not have the extra time to stop all operations to harvest, package, and deliver this bounty of perfectly good food across town.

Genesis was heartbroken. She feared this abundance of food would be headed for the compost pile.

Then a friend connected Genesis with Society of St. Andrew. It didn't take long for her to realize this was the start of something great. She fondly remembers the first time a SoSA representative came to her farm— prepared with materials, information, and a plan. The SoSA representative not only planned to harvest the food from the farm, but had plans for packaging and transportation as well.

This 2019 season has been a tough year for the farm so far. Extreme weather has delayed planting and cancelled scheduled farmers' markets. Even still, Genesis says that she and her husband are excited to have food to donate to SoSA this year. Food that is good to eat, but not good to market is still exciting for them! Genesis



Genesis (right) and her husband Eli (left) run a farm and raise a family with two children (pictured) in Indiana.

sees it as an opportunity to serve her community, especially her neighbors who might be struggling with hunger.

Genesis and her husband will continue to grow food as efficiently as possible. And when they're blessed with unsold food, despite lean seasons, they will donate it to SoSA for local distribution.

They want to reduce food waste, but they also know that hungry neighbors need food and they need hope. And sometimes a gift of farm-fresh food can give them both. ■





## January - May 2019 Totals Fresh food saved and donated to feed hungry people

Produce Gleaned.....	7,789,294 lbs
Servings of Fresh Food Provided.....	23,367,882
Events .....	1,433
Volunteers.....	6,476
Farms/Providers.....	413
Distributing Agencies .....	849

<b>Total Historical Pounds</b>	<b>859 Million</b>
<b>Total Historical Servings</b>	<b>2.5 Billion</b>

## Recent Donations

### In Memory Of

Joyce Bennett  
John Blish  
Dora Dalli Campbell  
Bud the Spud Curtis  
Sallie Lenora Long Gray  
Jean Makoujy  
Billy Don Moore  
Peggy Peters  
Bill Robinson  
Ryan Shoaf  
Robert Winkelmann

### In Honor Of

Lester Lee Anderson  
Charlotte Bennett  
The Rev. Susan E. Bentley  
Wallace Bruce  
David & Sally "42 years together"  
Jasmine Goldie  
Andrew Sidney Hiestand  
Andy Holt  
Henry Holswade  
Lesley Huffaker  
Barbara Hunnicutt  
Ann McCord  
Stella Pool  
Quin's Birthday  
Rev. Dr. Nina V. Salmon  
Suzanne Shows

# Executive Director's Report

By Lynette Johnson

## If You Have Food to Eat, Thank a Farmer

If you've kept an eye on the news this year, you know that floods have devastated many farms across many states. Truth is, every year brings challenges to those who grow the food we all eat. Too much rain or too little, sales, transportation costs, and more can have a significant impact on a farm family.



In spite of it all, more than a thousand generous farmers across the U.S. share some of their crops with people who are hungry every year—through the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA).

If you ask those farmers why they share their food, here are a few of the responses you'd hear:

- It's the right thing to do.
- It makes a difference for struggling families in our community.
- I hate to see good food go to waste.
- I want to share the joy of eating field-fresh food.

Farmers have lots of options these days for donating their unsold crops. They choose SoSA because they trust SoSA gleaners to respect their land and the food they've grown. They know SoSA will get their crops to people who really need it and they know anyone with SoSA is as good as their word. We are very grateful that so many farmers choose to share their food, through SoSA, with families who need it.

We strive to make it as easy as possible for the farmers. If the crops are in the field, gleaners are sent out. If the food is in a packing house, we'll send a truck to pick it up. If the food has been rejected by a store far away, SoSA will find a way to share that produce locally.

We all want to see the farmers succeed. Our teams of recipients, volunteers, and staff only salvage the food for which farmers have no market. Accurate records are kept for all donations. And usually, team members form relationships with the farmers they meet. They know farmers love to teach others about farm life, how their food is grown, and ultimately that there's plenty of good food to share.

We, at the Society of St. Andrew, are so grateful to the hard working producers who share their excess crops, so hungry people can have nourishing, fresh—and delicious—food to eat.

Next time you meet a farmer, don't be shy to say, "Thanks!" ■



# WHAT IS A YAM JAM?

When Yam Jam began, it was a single annual event held on a Saturday morning at one farm. It has now grown into a full six-week season of gleaning across multiple farms. Yam Jam now yields more than six full semi-trucks of sweet potatoes and deploys nearly 2,500 volunteers each year.

It is an opportunity for farmers to give back to their neighbors and community. The farmers that participate in Yam Jam truly care about their communities and the people that live in them. They are excited to have enough fresh food to share with others.

Yam Jam is a season where half a dozen farmers open their fields to volunteers. It's more than a field gleaning or a Harvest Festival. It's an invitation to dive deeper into the mission to end hunger. It's the perfect opportunity to build a community around food.

New groups and old groups hurriedly sign up in July for a coveted spot to glean between the months of September and November in the Raleigh Area of North Carolina. These volunteer groups represent universities, churches, private schools, corporations, civic groups, small businesses, scout troops, and more.

And the magic happens once these people are all in the field together. At 8 a.m. on their scheduled dates, these volunteers get together, receive their marching orders for the day, and get to work gleaning as many sweet potatoes as possible.

While working together side by side, they begin to make connections and establish relationships. They get to know each other and share their stories. New friendships are formed. New resources are discovered. Community bonds begin to bloom amidst the dirt, sweat, and taters.

When we work together, our efforts are multiplied, the food is bountiful, and our neighbors who need some help are blessed with fresh, local food. Then there's the added bonus of getting to

make new friends with fellow volunteers. And it all starts on the farm. The work we do at Society of St. Andrew is certainly messy and sweaty, but when we do it together, it's a whole lot more fun. ■



SoSA Board member, former NFL player Jason Brown, welcomes SoSA gleaners to his First Fruits Farm during Yam Jam.





# Special Day of Giving

Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, up to a total of \$51,500!

**Tuesday, August 27**

**EndHunger.org/40th**

**40<sup>th</sup>**  
**ANNIVERSARY**

Society of St. Andrew  
GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS  
FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

Every \$1 given will provide 35 servings of fresh fruits and vegetables for families struggling with hunger.

2019 is SoSA's 40th anniversary. It marks 40 years of feeding hungry families and reducing food waste. Join us in celebration and then join us for Hunger Action Month in September.



It's not too early to order Alternative Christmas Cards to help feed hungry people. This year's card is the second card in four part series by Virginia artist Jim Harris.

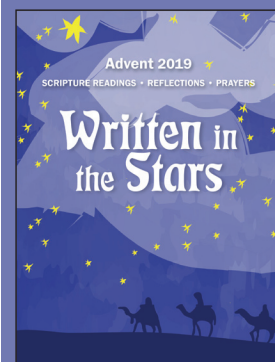
**EndHunger.org/acc**

## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

that donated \$1,000+ in the 2nd quarter:

Anonymous .....  
Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation ..... Indianapolis, IN  
Asbury Community Thrift Store..... Madison, AL  
Beazley Foundation, Inc. ....Portsmouth, VA  
Cargill Incorporated..... Minneapolis, MN  
Central Alabama Community Foundation .....  
Montgomery, AL  
Ecumenical Center for Stewardship..... Richmond, IN  
Edward Jones Trust Co..... Maryland Heights, MO  
Enterprise Holding Foundation..... Saint Louis, MO  
Fidelity Charitable Gifts ..... Cincinnati, OH  
Foundation For The Carolinas..... Charlotte, NC  
James M. Frye Endowment Fund II of The Community  
Foundation..... Richmond, VA  
James M. Frye Endowment III of The Community  
Foundation..... Richmond, VA  
John & Mary Franklin Foundation..... Atlanta, GA  
John K. Bastien Foundation..... Delray Beach, FL  
Kroger..... Cincinnati, OH  
L.B. Lane Family Foundation..... Rapid City, SD  
McIntosh Foundation ..... Coral Gables, FL  
Network For Good ..... Bethesda, MD  
Northwestern Mutual Investment Services.....  
Milwaukee, WI  
Robert & Dee Leggett Foundation ..... Great Falls, VA  
Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc..... Milwaukee, WI  
St. Joseph Community Health..... Fort Wayne, IN  
Vanguard Charitable..... Warwick, RI  
Wingate University..... Wingate, NC  
Wonderful Giving..... Los Angeles, CA  
The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation.....  
Bethesda, MD

## Plan for Advent with SoSA



Advent  
materials  
are shipping  
now!

Order yours at  
[EndHunger.org/  
advent](http://EndHunger.org/advent)

THE SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW IS A NATIONAL 501(c)(3) TAX EXEMPT, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.

**For information about SoSA programs call 800-333-4597 • [sosainfo@EndHunger.org](mailto:sosainfo@EndHunger.org) • [EndHunger.org](http://EndHunger.org)**  
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