

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

2023 Impact Report

Delmarva Gleaning Network

2023 Impact

In 2023, more than 500 volunteers, farmers, agencies, and organizations donated their time, energy, or financial resources to The Society of St. Andrew's Delmarva Gleaning Network to assist in its produce rescue and distribution program, which puts fresh fruits and vegetables on the tables of our hungry neighbors across Delmarva. This food would have gone to waste in landfills or rotted in fields without volunteers generously donating their time to gleaning, packing, and transporting it to local feeding agencies.



5,332,524
Servings

386

dedicated
volunteers

1,333,131

pounds of
nutritious food

>665

tons prevented
from waste

52

food donors

161

gleaning events

90

receiving agencies

Mission & Purpose

The Society of St. Andrew's mission is to bring people together to harvest and share healthy food, reduce food waste, and build caring communities by offering nourishment to hungry neighbors.

Coming Together

In 2023, the Delmarva Peninsula welcomed the return of SoSA's Harvest of Hope Program, our faith-based, hands-on service and learning opportunity for youth. In July, more than 75 youth and counselors joined SoSA staff to glean green beans, potatoes, and corn in Accomack and Northampton counties on Virginia's Eastern Shore. In all, our dedicated youth sent 9,500 pounds of fresh produce to our partner agencies on ESVA, while learning about food insecurity and food waste.



Sharing Healthy Food

It takes a lot of cherry tomatoes to make 270 pounds, but our dedicated volunteers picked that many in a couple of hours on a beautiful August day at Wood Duck Landing Farm in Princess Anne, MD! The grower no longer had a market for the beautiful fruit, but the vines hung heavy with various sizes and varieties. Because they were vine-ripened and full of juice, it was important to find homes for them immediately so our hungry neighbors received good food at its most nutritious! Our Delmarva office loves being the connector, getting fresh food to those in our community who lack access.

Reduce Food Waste

When a large farm in Virginia harvests acres of sweet corn each day to meet a retail contract, it's inevitable that some gets left behind in the field. Groups from two churches joined SoSA Delmarva staff on a hot August morning to glean more than 3,000 pounds of beautiful corn that was distributed that same day, both to ministries on the Eastern Shore and across the Chesapeake Bay to feeding programs in the Hampton, VA area.

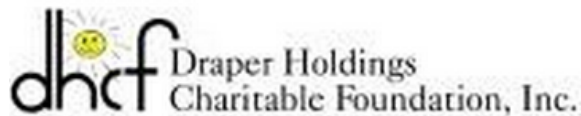


Building Community

In July, Salisbury University sponsored an invasive species fishing tournament to raise awareness about the spread of the invasive blue catfish in Delmarva's waterways, and to remove as many as possible in a few hours. SoSA Delmarva joined with SU to glean the tournament! Those participating won prizes, but most didn't want to keep their catch. SoSA coordinated with members of the local Haitian community. SoSA provided ice and they provided coolers and transportation back to their communities. In all, 950 pounds of fresh, delicious catfish were removed from the Nanticoke River and went directly to feed people in need.

Our Partners

The Delmarva Gleaning Network would like to thank the following organizations and foundations and more than 50 congregations, and 120 individual donors who have supported us in 2023. Your continued support has a tremendous impact, leaving a broad and meaningful footprint across every part of Delmarva, engaging persons of all ages in service to others, reducing food waste, and addressing critical human needs. We thank you and look forward to continuing our partnership in the fight to end hunger across the Delmarva peninsula. THANK YOU!



Our Team

Two full-time staff work to bring gleaned food to hungry neighbors across the Delmarva peninsula and into communities surrounding the peninsula, including Washington, DC, Baltimore, and Western Maryland.

Jean Siers is the Delmarva Regional Director, and Brenda Mahan is the Delmarva Program Coordinator. Jean has worked for SoSA for 11 years in various capacities and moved to Salisbury, MD in 2022 to open SoSA's newest office. Brenda Mahan joined the team in September 2022 after many years in the financial industry.

The national office is led by Executive Director Lynette Johnson, who has been a part of the organization since 2010. Since becoming Executive Director in 2017, she has led the Board of Directors through a re-visioning process that resulted in a new mission statement and a new strategic plan.



Jean Siers

Delmarva Regional Director

410-713-0895

delmarva@endhunger.org



Brenda Mahan

Program Coordinator

205-245-3214

dmv-glean@endhunger.org