Board Chair’s Report

I am honored to be serving as the new Board Chair for United Food Bank. Born and raised in Plant City, I have strong ties to this community. I graduated from Durant High School and went on to receive a B.A. Degree in Communication from the University of South Florida in 2009. In 2013, I earned a Master of Hospitality and Tourism Management from the University of Central Florida’s Rosen College of Hospitality Management. In 2013, I also started my own business as owner and travel specialist of Cruise Planners-Plant City Travelers.

I love volunteering and have a passion for helping others. I was drawn to UFPC because of its sole purpose of providing assistance to the needy. Not only does our food bank offer food to our clients, but also opportunities for education on healthy lifestyles, job research, and many other services.

During my term as Board Chair, one of my goals is to expand the much needed Children’s Nutritional Outreach Program, which provides weekend meals for children when they are not receiving free meals in their schools. With more funding, we can get this program into more area schools. My teacher friends have told me many heartbreaking stories of their students’ unmet needs for food. Some of them help personally when they can, sending food home with a child, but with the help of our supporters in this community, we can assist so many more.

Kendelle Jimenez

While 10 percent of Americans with children under age 18 live in poverty, there are 1 in 6 children in the U.S. who live with hunger (U.S. Census 2013-2017 and U.S. HHS). In Plant City, the rate of individuals who live below poverty with children under 18 years of age is 15.6 percent compared to neighboring Dover at 41.2 percent, and Thonotosassa at 21.4 percent, all areas served by this food bank.

While programs like SNAP; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program; and the National School Lunch Program exist, only 59 percent of food-insecure households reported participating in at least one of these programs. United Food Bank stepped in three years ago to begin working with Hillsborough County Public Schools in East Hillsborough to reduce student food insecurity during weekend, holiday, and other school breaks (summer having the highest degree of hunger).

United Food Bank is working with seven secondary schools in the District, including Wilson Elementary, Cork Elementary, Trappnell Elementary, Burney Elementary, Springhead Elementary, Marshall Middle School, and Plant City High School to provide a total of 303 Weekend Backpack Program food packages each week for a yearly total of 6,027 backpacks filled with food during each school year. Social workers, guidance counselors, teachers, staff, parents, and students help identify children who experience hunger when not in school and who may need food supplies.

An added 7,436 bags of food are distributed annually to children through United Food Bank’s Weekly Kid’s Bags Program during school breaks, including the summer.

Out of the seven schools that United Food Bank collaborates with to address childhood hunger, one elementary school in Plant City, Burney Elementary School, provides an annual Empty Bowls event, which raises funds to support the snack program for children in need. The event also celebrates the local Strawberry Festival by inviting Strawberry Farmers Carl & DeeDee Grooms and Chef Amy Freeze, Everyday Gourmet to join the fun.

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Programs Overview

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The cost is $35.00 plus a $3.00 signup fee. Register online at https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/PlantCity/ForkRanAwayWithTheSpoon5k.

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ForkRanAwayWithTheSpoon5k.jpg

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9th Annual Empty Bowls

Raising awareness of hunger in the Plant City area and beyond, UFBPC’s annual Empty Bowls event combines art, music, and food to also raise money to continue feeding those experiencing food insecurity.

The 9th Annual Empty Bowls is scheduled for Saturday, November 9 from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Robert W. Willaford Railroad Museum. The event features a live auction of ceramic art bowls custom made by local artists. The $10 admission includes a choice of soup, an apple, and water, plus the selection of a pottery bowl made by local students in Hillsborough County Schools Area 5.

The Law Turns up the Heat at Celebrity Chef Event

The 11th Annual Celebrity Chef fundraiser that took place on February 2, 2019, was another great success for the United Food Bank (UFBPC), raising nearly $100,000 for the organization. Presenting sponsors were Mosaic and Star Distribution. Mayor Rick Lott emceed the evening event. Celebrity chefs were Anthony LoGerfo, Senior Resident Chef of Publix Aprons Cooking School; Chad Chronister, Hillsborough County Sheriff; and Ed Duncan, Plant City Chief of Police. They cooked in front of 315 event attendees at The John Trinkle Center in Plant City. The 2020 Celebrity Chef event is scheduled for February (see below). The proceeds of the event help UFBPC to continue feeding those in need in its extensive service area.

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United Food Bank of Plant City welcomes Gayle Langenhahn Tindle as the new Operations Manager. Ms. Tindle joined the staff in August of 2019. As Operations Manager, Gayle is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations including payroll, paperwork, and tracking program components and outcomes. She supervises the office assistant, interns, and volunteers. Ms. Tindle also maintains communication with clients, partners, and volunteers and assists the executive director with some grant activity.

With a Bachelor’s Degree in Finance from the University of South Florida and a Bachelor’s in Marketing from Florida State University, Ms. Tindle brings excellent educational and practical experience to the organization. Her past employment includes training positions in the Financial Aid department at Ultimate Medical Academy and at Disney’s Blizzard Beach Water Park. At Blizzard Beach, she also oversaw the daily operations of the park.

Born and raised in St. Petersburg, Ms. Tindle and her husband and two children have been living in Plant City for the past five years. While her husband hails from Lakeland, many of his family were raised in Plant City.

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Poor concentration: Poverty reduces brainpower needed for navigating other areas of life, www.Princeton.edu
In Gratitude for Our Contracted Partners

(Individual Donors Recognized and Honored Separately)

- Allegany Franciscan Ministries
- Amscot
- Bailey Family Foundation
- Children’s Board of Hillsborough County
- CSX Railroad
- Community Foundation of Tampa Bay
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Epic Effect
- Feeding Tampa Bay
- FEMA
- Florida Blue
- Florida Strawberry Festival
- Gordon Food Service
- Hillsborough Education Foundation
- Hillsborough County Government
- The Mosaic Company
- Publix Super Markets Charities
- Rays Baseball Foundation
- Regions
- Rooms to Go Children’s Fund
- Star Distribution
- Suncoast Credit Union
- United Way Suncoast
- Unity in the Community
- Walmart
- The Wawa Foundation
- Wish Farms

In addition to recognizing with gratitude its longtime funders, the United Food Bank of Plant City welcomes these more recent funders who are partnering with us to assist the hungry:

We Are Here When She Needs Us

Sometimes life situations make it hard to make ends meet. Take the case of Susan, pictured here at the food bank with her daughter. Another of Susan’s daughters has a complex medical condition to monitor and treat. Needing to be an at-home caregiver, having to pay travel costs to medical specialists, and meeting surgical and prescription co-pays means an occasional trip to United Food Bank and Services of Plant City to supplement groceries. She is grateful that UFBPC is here when she needs them.
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Outcomes & Evaluation

By the numbers: geographic distribution for registered United Food Bank and Services of Plant City (UFBPC) clients since opening in 1991:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>FY 2017-18 Distribution</th>
<th>FY 2018-19 Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plant City</td>
<td>66,543</td>
<td>66,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dover</td>
<td>6,576</td>
<td>6,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valrico</td>
<td>2,691</td>
<td>2,691</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seffner</td>
<td>2,170</td>
<td>2,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithia</td>
<td>1,451</td>
<td>1,451</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thonotosassa</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverview</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2018, UFBPC distributed 606 Thanksgiving meal baskets.

58,600 individuals and 13,387 families were served in the last 12 months (FY19) compared to 42,715 individuals and 13,683 families served in the prior 12-month period. In FY 19, 767 new families sought assistance at the United Food Bank.
Navigating Resources

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Poor concentration: Poverty reduces brainpower needed for navigating other areas of life, www.Princeton.edu

One of the Many Services Provided by UFBPC and Its Volunteers

Kathy Corrillo, a volunteer with United Food Bank for two years, is helping Stella Gill and Troy Griffin (Food Bank clients) with their online Department of Children and Families (DCF) ACCESS benefits paperwork.
Programs Overview

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UFPC Board Members

George W. Banning  
Earl Biggs
Donna Burke
Mathew Buzza
David Davenport
Silvia Dodson
Kendelle Jimenez
Bill McDaniel
Marsha Passmore
Rev. Dean Pfeffer
Jon Popple
Daniel Raulerson
Bruce Rodwell
Bruce Sperry
Beth Tantredi
William Thomas
Brian West
Emeritus
Dodie White

Save The Date: Upcoming Food Bank Events

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19 ENCLOSED

Save The Date: Upcoming Food Bank Events

Saturday, November 9, 2019:
Fork Run Away With the Spoon 5K Walk/Run  
7:00 a.m. Downtown Plant City
9th Annual Empty Bowls Event  
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Homemade Bowls, Soup, Entertainment
Willisford Railroad Museum

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The John Trinkle Center
Chef Amy Freeze, Everyday Gourmet
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To provide assistance for those in need, moving them from a state of hunger and impoverishment to self-sufficiency, empowerment, and self-reliance.

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Annual Report 2018-19

Providing a Hand Up and Not a Hand Out

Since 1983, United Food Bank and Services of Plant City, Inc. has been providing a hand up and not a hand out to our community. The mission is to provide food and other resources for those in need and stabilize them from a state of hunger to self-sufficiency by addressing the root causes of hunger and deprivation. With the vision to provide food and resources that improve people’s lives, we are able to address the cause of hunger, not just the symptoms.

Mary Heysek
Executive Director

United Food Bank and Services of Plant City, Inc.

Annual Report 2018-19

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There are more than 12 million children in the United States who live in “food insecure” homes, ones that don’t have enough food for every family member to lead a healthy life by U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) standards. This means children get smaller portions than they need, or parents are not able to afford nutritious foods. In the case of breakfast alone, research shows children who eat breakfast not only improve attendance, punctuality, math scores, and standardized test scores, they also decrease anxiety, depression, and hyperactivity.

While 10 percent of Americans with children under age 18 live in poverty, there are 1 in 6 children in the U.S. who live with hunger (U.S. Census 2013-2017 and U.S. HHS). In Plant City, the rate of individuals who live below poverty with children under 18 years of age is 15.6 percent compared to neighboring Dover at 41.2 percent, and Thonotosassa at 18.4 percent, all areas served by this food bank.

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