HERE’S TO YOU, EMILY DANT

A Mother’s Perspective on Youth Philanthropy

Miriam Dant
Contributing Writer

As a long-time Second Helpings volunteer, I’ve been involved in some discussions recently about how to involve our children in the important work that Second Helpings does. For insurance reasons, we can’t bring our kids to help in the kitchen or deliver food. But one thing that kids can do (sometimes better than the adults) is collect pasta, especially during times like these when Second Helpings’ pasta supplies are running low.

Our 11-year-old daughter, Emily, delivered 78 pounds of pasta to Second Helpings this summer. She did this by handwriting a flyer, complete with smiley faces, hearts and peace signs, and leaving the flyer in the mailboxes in our neighborhood. She asked our neighbors to purchase pasta for Second Helpings and leave it by their mailboxes by 6 pm on a Sunday evening. Emily was counting down the hours until pasta pick-up time on Sunday. Our neighbors were incredibly generous, and Emily and her dad had to come home twice to empty the trunk and make room for more donations!

This is actually Emily’s third neighborhood pasta drive for Second Helpings. The other drives have had similar positive results. Each pasta drive has reminded Emily how important it is to help others, how lucky we are to have plenty to eat, and that one person can make a difference… even if that one person hasn’t even started middle school.

Here’s to you, Emily, for making your dad and me so very proud; for making it possible for 1,284 more meals to be served by Second Helpings; and for reminding all of us adults that if you can make this big of an impact, just think of what we can all do if we put our minds to it.
Many volunteers would like to share the Second Helpings mission in a meaningful way with their children, grandchildren, and other young people in their lives. While volunteers have to be 16 years old to work in the Hunger Relief Kitchen, there are a lot of other ways that kids can participate in fighting hunger in Central Indiana.

Pasta Drive
A pasta drive is a great activity for children to learn how to get large groups, such as an entire class or school, involved in giving. Of course, it doesn’t have to be just pasta—rice, spices or large (restaurant size) cans of tomato products are also a big help. When the collection drive is finished, we’re happy to schedule a time for children to bring their collected items to Second Helpings where they can see how it will be used to fight hunger in our community.

Plant a Garden (or come help in ours)
Lots of fresh tomatoes, peppers, onions and other fresh ingredients go into thousands of meals we prepare each day, and we can always use more. Or you can sign up to help keep our herb garden thriving and our meals tastier than ever.

Check out our website for additional resources on teaching kids about hunger and even more ideas about how to volunteer and contribute as a family.

Second Helpings Gets Ready to Celebrate 15 Years!
April 2013 will mark Second Helpings’ 15th anniversary. With 500 Culinary Job Training graduates, 18 million pounds of food rescued and 6.5 million meals prepared, there will be a lot to celebrate. So we’re moving our annual Harvest to April this year and planning a BIG event at Bankers Life Fieldhouse. Watch for more details!

Welcome New Staff
Martha Gilchrist
Dock Coordinator
Martha Gilchrist joins Second Helpings as our first-ever Dock Coordinator. With her in-depth experience and knowledge of the logistics and food recovered, she will play a vital role in the organization of the busy dock. Martha’s background includes the foodservice industry, restoration, renovation and urban planning.

Kaitlyn Fox
Advancement Coordinator
Kaitlyn comes to Second Helpings as an AmeriCorps SPEA VISTA Fellow. She is a recent college graduate from Indiana University with a concentration in non-profit management. Kaitlyn is excited to be part of the Second Helpings team and aid them in the advancement of their fundraising efforts. Kaitlyn spends her free time painting, cooking, and exploring Indianapolis.

Sandy Schwomeyer
Kitchen Assistant
Sandy comes to Second Helpings with 25 years of experience in the food service industry. Sandy first came to Second Helpings as a kitchen volunteer in 2008, where her passion and talents led her to join the Hunger Relief staff this past spring. Sandy loves to garden and spend time with her husband and son at their country home in Greenfield, Indiana.
Second Helpings’ IMPACT

July 2012

120,491 pounds of food REDISTRIBUTED

57,003 meals prepared & delivered

162,648 pounds of food RESCUED

3,186 volunteer hours served

Since 1998

491 Culinary Job Training GRADUATES

17,198,173 pounds of food RESCUED

273,977 volunteer hours served

8,663,173 pounds of food REDISTRIBUTED

6,322,457 meals prepared & delivered

How can YOU help Second Helpings transform lives?

At Second Helpings we’re transforming lives through the power of food, but we can’t do it alone. Every day lives are being changed thanks to the support and generosity of people like you. Check out these great partnerships and see how you, too, can make a difference in fighting hunger and poverty in Central Indiana.

Transforming lives is as easy as going grocery shopping. Second Helpings is proud to be part of GFS Fun Funds, a program that has raised nearly $17,000 since Summer 2011. Enroll today and you can start earning money for Second Helpings every time you shop at GFS.

Dead watch? Need a new watch battery? Take a quick trip to Reis-Nichols Jewelers where they will donate ALL PROCEEDS from simple watch battery replacements to Second Helpings.

Second Helpings is grateful to our friend and long-time partner, Marigold Clothing in Broad Ripple. To mark their 23rd anniversary, Marigold will donate 10% of all sales on Wednesday, September 12th to Second Helpings. Plus, stop in and donate 5 or more pounds of pasta at Marigold between September 12th and 16th for a chance to win great prizes.

Give your kitchen a break every Tuesday during September and head over to Outback Steakhouse at the Pyramids or in Castleton. Bring in a flyer (available at www.secondhelpings.org) and these Outback locations will donate 10% of your entire table sale to Second Helpings. And if you don’t have time to dine in, this offer also includes curbside purchases.

Second Helpings

Transforming Lives through the Power of Food

The Eugene and Marilyn Glick Center
1121 Southeastern Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202

www.secondhelpings.org
(317)632-2664