

SECOND HELPINGS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT



Although a lot has changed in 25 years, from 1998 to 2023, volunteers, students, and staff still gather in the kitchen to use rescued food to create meals and opportunities in our community.

47,354,479 lbs. of Food Rescued
from our Community Partners

26,504,147 lbs. of Food Distributed
to Community Pantries

18,692,992 Meals Delivered
to our Community Partners

1,003 Adults Graduated
from our Culinary Job Training Program

787,114 Hours Served
by Second Helpings Volunteers

Second Helpings is celebrating our 25th anniversary this year, which has been a special opportunity to look back on all that our community has made possible together. While so much has changed since 1998, Second Helpings has stayed true to our mission and has operated the same three programs, which fight hunger from all angles.

For 25 years, Second Helpings has rescued food that would have otherwise gone to waste. Every year, our team drives more than 100,000 miles across central Indiana, rescuing food from grocery stores, wholesalers, caterers, and more—perfectly good food that these partners just don't have room for. Since our inception in 1998, Second Helpings has rescued more than **47 million pounds** of food.

That rescued food has been transformed into nutritious, homemade meals in our Hunger Relief kitchen. These meals are delivered to more than 100 social service

agencies in central Indiana, where our partners can focus on their core mission, while depending on Second Helpings to provide the food. Since 1998, we have delivered more than **18 million meals** to feed our neighbors.

Rescued food is also used in the Culinary Job Training program, where Second Helpings trains unemployed and underemployed adults for careers in the culinary industry. Our Chef instructors and partners work together to provide all the skills our students need to succeed in the kitchen and beyond. This summer, we celebrated our **1,000th graduate** from this program.

Thanks to everyone—our volunteers, food and financial donors, community partners, and more—for making all of this work possible. Together, we will continue this work to prevent waste, fight hunger, and provide opportunities for our community.

Culinary Job Training

EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY: FROM NOURISHMENT TO TRANSPORTATION

Over our 25-year history, Second Helpings has been so fortunate to receive support from all across our community—individuals, corporations, foundations, and more. We're highlighting one of those long-time partners here. Oak Motors is a car dealership with five locations in Indianapolis, Anderson, and Muncie. Not only has Oak Motors provided Second Helpings generous contributions for nearly 20 years, but the family-owned company is also sponsoring an upcoming Culinary Job Training class to help provide durable skills to underemployed and unemployed adults in our community.

Supporting community members in this way is not new to Oak Motors. They've been helping people with less than perfect credit gain access to affordable and dependable transportation for over 35 years through in-house financing as a "Buy Here Pay Here" dealership. Their commitment to the community is exemplified in the contribution of more than \$900,000 to a variety of organizations across central Indiana since 2012, including Second Helpings.

Tiger Okeley, executive board member at Oak Motors, explains his business model: "Our focus is not solely on selling vehicles, but rather providing the opportunity for people to improve the quality of their life. If hard choices need to be made, we believe purchasing a car should be a practical decision that enhances the ability to take care of daily needs, like commuting to work, getting the kids to school, or transporting loved ones to the places they need to go; rather than 'how good does the vehicle make me look?' If we can do both, that makes it just that much better!"

Second Helpings' mission to reduce the impact of food insecurity, while teaching adults ready for a career change, combines well with Oak Motors' dedication to providing

affordable and reliable transportation regardless of past credit history. This powerful duo helps empower more people to get back in the driver's seats of their lives.

"Supporting Second Helpings is important to our company. We are inspired by their devotion to helping people improve their circumstances, so our shared purpose resonates and keeps us committed to our partnership," Okeley shared.

In the end, our partnership with Oak Motors is an empowering example for other businesses to recognize their ability to make a lasting difference—by prioritizing the progress of the communities in which they live and work.



Oak Motors has been a long-time supporter of Second Helpings and they're sponsoring upcoming Culinary Job Training Class #160.

Hunger Relief

CATHEDRAL KITCHEN SERVES UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS EVERY DAY

For 25 years, Second Helpings has prepared meals for social service agencies across our community. Our partners serve a wide variety of people—some target their programs to kids, seniors, veterans, or neighbors experiencing homelessness, while other organizations serve the general public in their neighborhood, no questions asked.

While Second Helpings often connects with new organizations, there are many who we have worked together with for nearly all of our 25-year history. One such partner is Cathedral Kitchen, the feeding ministry of Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral (SSPPC). They have served unhoused neighbors in downtown Indianapolis since the Great Depression. This program serves more than 100 people a

day, seven days a week, all with donated food, prepared and served by volunteers.

Dr. Margie Pike, who directed Cathedral Kitchen for 15 years, remembers when the kitchen first partnered with Second Helpings in 1999. "When I heard about Second Helpings it was like a godsend to realize I didn't have to cook this huge amount of food every day, that I had an agency that was going to be faithful day in and day out. They really go out of their way to constantly support us, so our success is based on the goodness of Second Helpings."

Thanks to our community's continued support, Second Helpings provides 1,400 meals to Cathedral Kitchen every

week—and has delivered more than 550,000 meals to them since we started working together 24 years ago.

“We couldn’t do any of it without the support of Second Helpings,” said Deacon Steve Hodges, the Pastoral Associate at SSPPC. “All this food is prepared with love.”

“Our guests are living on the fringes. Sometimes they have nowhere else to turn to, and so at least we provide a safe place where they can eat a large meal every day and they can take some food with them to tide them over for the rest of the day.”

Food plays a powerful role in our day-to-day lives. Beyond providing nourishment, a delicious, filling meal brings joy and comfort, especially after a difficult day. Thank you for making it possible to fight hunger, and provide more than food to our community.

Food Rescue

FOOD RESCUE PROGRAM SPANS CULINARY INDUSTRY

For 25 years, rescued food has fueled all of Second Helpings’ programs. At the core of our mission is the desire to reduce waste. Instead of letting quality food be sent to a landfill, it’s used to fight hunger and create opportunities in our community.

The Food Rescue program—and all of our work together—wouldn’t be possible without the many food donors who share their product with us. That shared commitment to preventing food waste has connected Second Helpings with partners across the culinary industry.

One of those longtime partners is **Kroger**, who, since 2004, has donated more than 2.5 million pounds of food to Second Helpings. Currently, 18 Kroger stores are scheduled for weekly pickups. Kroger has also been a generous financial donor as well, both serving as the presenting sponsor for our annual Corks & Forks event and providing a matching gift opportunity for the Gr8 Pasta Push.

Second Helpings also rescues an incredible amount of food from large-scale distributors like **Sysco** and **US Foods** – more than 4 million and 10 million pounds, respectively. Both companies have partnered with Second Helpings since 1999 and continue to provide bulk food items that we couldn’t afford to purchase anywhere else.

Our approach is unique in that we can also rescue prepared food to use in our operations. Donors like **JW Marriott** and the **502 East Event Center** make it possible for Second Helpings to provide variety in the meals we deliver to our partners, and for the ability to stretch our donated ingredients and volunteer power even further. JW Marriott,



Cathedral Kitchen has served Second Helpings meals since 1999, and currently provides around 1,400 meals each week to neighbors experiencing homelessness.

who has donated nearly 150,000 pounds of prepared food since 2011, is also a frequent employer of Culinary Job Training graduates.

From this wide range of partners across the industry, Second Helpings has rescued more than 47 million pounds of food since our founding in April 1998, and we continue to rescue more than 3 million pounds each year. Together, these partnerships create less waste, and instead, that food is put to work in the fight against hunger.



JW MARRIOTT

Second Helpings has rescued more than 47 million pounds of food from donors that span the culinary industry.



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THIS FALL AT SECOND HELPINGS

We're entering a busy time at Second Helpings, so follow us on social media to stay up to date on opportunities to connect and get involved with the mission to #FeedIndy!

OCTOBER

Stay tuned for the reveal of our refreshed branding towards the end of October!

NOVEMBER

- 11.11 | This **Veterans Day**, join Second Helpings in thanking all those who have served in the military—and the organizations who serve veterans and their families.
- 11.17 | **Tonic Ball**, presented by Eskenazi Health, is in Fountain Square again this year! Learn more at secondhelpings.org/tonicball.
- 11.23 | **Happy Thanksgiving!**
- 11.28 | **Giving Tuesday:** Mark your calendar now and watch for more details to come on this special day of giving!

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