



*Our mission is to lead and engage our community in the fight against hunger and poverty: providing help; creating hope.* 

# Impact Report







#### Dear Supporters,

I am delighted to share the impact of your incredible support in our 2023 Impact Report. Your generosity has been a beacon of hope for many in our community and allowed us to continue our mission of fighting hunger and poverty.

Thanks to you, in 2023 we were able to implement innovative programs like our on-line grocery ordering system, empowering our clients to make choices that suit their dietary needs. Additionally, we've expanded our Mobile Market truck sites, reduced the waitlist for our grocery delivery program for seniors and the disabled, and strengthened our educational initiatives to make a long-term impact for our clients on their journey toward self-sufficiency.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our volunteer force. Your selfless efforts are truly the heart of our organization, and we are immensely grateful for your commitment.

As you review our 2023 Impact Report, please know that every dollar contributed, and every moment of time given has made a direct impact on those facing difficult circumstances.

Thank you for standing with us in our mission of providing help and creating hope.



Warm regards,

Deborah Coppola CEO/Executive Director

### Messages of Hope ...



"Everyone has shown me that it's not just about the food, but that they really care about me. I don't know how I would have survived without Arlington Charities." — James

"I still shop at the normal grocery store, but the Mobile Market Truck has helped tremendously. Everything is going up except your paycheck."



– Lesley



"The food Arlington Charities provides is truly a blessing and so needed for my family of six." — Maria

"When I retired, I needed help. The supplemental food from Arlington Charities helps lower my grocery bill so I can spend it on other needs. I am so thankful for their services!"

— Gloria





"Suffering from PTSD makes it hard to keep a job and a place to live. Arlington Charities helps with delicious sandwiches, salads, and fruit. Without it, there would be days I may not eat at all." — **Ralph** Desert Storm veteran

"After moving from California for nursing school and work, my fiancé and I were overwhelmed with bills. Arlington Charities provided an immediate emergency food box that helped us bridge the gap."



— Kiara



38% of two-year university students experience food insecurity.

> — Center for Public Policy Priorities

### New in 2023

The Market Truck made its debut run in February 2023, and gave clients living in food deserts access to fresh vegetables, fruit, bakery, and more. Made possible by a generous grant from Tarrant County ARPA funding.



## **Grocery distribution**

- Drive-Through Grocery Pick-up
- Mobile Food Markets
- Market Truck
- Grocery Delivery Programs
- Help for our Unhoused Neighbors
- Satellite Pantry at Tarrant County
  College Southeast Campus



36% of the food we offer our clients is fresh, nutritious produce. "Our main mission is to address food insecurity in the Arlington area, but we know that food insecurity is just a symptom of other issues in the lives of our clients. While we can't control increases in cost of living and groceries, we can provide resources that go beyond food. Offering classes and programs can help our clients not just survive but thrive."

Casey McCollum,
 Program Director

# Beyond food

#### **Educational Classes for Adults** free classes onsite that include employment coaching, financial empow-

free classes onsite that include employment coaching, financial empowerment, English language classes, and computer skills. Led by highly qualified and trained professionals, these classes help clients attain economic stability and freedom.

# Case Management, Crisis Assistance, and Referral Information

monthly SNAP signup days, assistance in times of local emergencies (i.e. storms, fires, etc.) with support services, and referrals to agencies and resources in the community.

#### Youth Programs

help for families with school-aged children in times of food crisis, times during school breaks, and when more food is needed at home such as Summer Read & Feed and AISD Back to School Fair.



# Volunteers make it happen



Each of our dedicated volunteers comes to work at Arlington Charities with a servant heart that resonates throughout the building — and with our clients.

We are the oldest social service organization and the largest source of supplemental food in the Arlington area.



Dutch Bros. Coffee raised \$4,341.32 through their 2023 "Dutch Luv Day" and regularly brings the team out to volunteer on the distribution line.

"We not only have the drive through program but we have the home delivery program, the mobile market truck which takes fresh fruits and vegetables into the community. There's also the summer Read & Feed program which is very close to my heart as a retired teacher. Arlington Charities is a very prolific giving tool serving the community."

> — Sue C., Dedicated Volunteer



Corporate groups volunteers give back to the community and assist in all aspects of the work at Arlington Charities; pictured above: GM Financial



# **Community Partners**



Local Chefs Maurice Ahern, Darrin Green, Aziz Kobty, and Preston Nguyen participated in our annual Help & Hope gala.



Atmos Energy supported the 2023 Summer Read & Feed.



Light The World Giving Machine sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, raised \$59,035 in three DFW locations during the holidays.

"The work we do in the community is very grassroots and very front-line help for people in a time of crisis"

> — Deborah Coppola, Executive Director





Mayor Ross stopped by and met clients during Read & Feed youth program which provided healthy snacks and books for area students.

# **Thank You** You made a difference in the lives of your neighbors!



Scan the QR code and see the donors and partners who made 2023 our most impactful year so far in the lives of our clients.