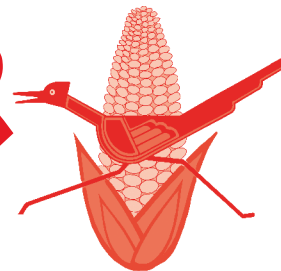


ROADRUNNER ROUNDUP



Winter 2010

Roadrunner Food Bank is dedicated to ending hunger in New Mexico.

Donor Profile... Sandy Gold

Upon retiring from a career as a Special Education teacher, Sandy Gold moved from New York City to New Mexico 11 years ago. She “wanted to relocate to a more civilized area where I could do more gardening.” She found New Mexico a paradise which immediately felt like home. As an avid cyclist for more than 20 years, she joined the New Mexico Touring Society and became involved with Roadrunner Food Bank. She decided to participate in the “Will Pedal for Food Ride,” a fundraiser for Roadrunner in 2004.

A few months later Melody Wattenbarger, Roadrunner’s President and CEO, was a guest speaker at the Society’s monthly meeting. Sandy said, “Melody made me much more aware of the hunger problem in New Mexico and inspired me to do something to help.” Since that time, Sandy has regularly increased her giving and is now at the *Fill a Family Table* level by pledging an annual gift of \$5,000 a year for five years.

Sandy’s philanthropy has grown even further as she became a *Founding Member of the Cornucopia Society*, Roadrunner’s new *Planned Giving Society*. A portion of her estate will be gifted to Roadrunner. Her generosity extended to her largest gift to date when she recently signed a pledge for a \$25,000 gift to name one of the meeting rooms in our new facility. This wonderful conference room, which comfortably seats 12 people and is often used both by Roadrunner staff and outside groups, will now be known as the **Sandy Gold Produce Room**. This money was given as part of our *Moving to End Hunger Campaign* and will be included in the pool of funds that will allow Roadrunner Food Bank to purchase our facility which we are currently leasing.

Sandy selected the Produce Room because of the colorful photos of produce on the walls representing Roadrunner’s commitment to provide healthy and nutritious food. Sandy said she was born with a cleft palate making it impossible for her to empty her bottle. She was in a constant state of hunger. The problem was surgically corrected, but she said “the issue of hunger just resonated with me. I’m all about feeding hungry people. In this country no one should go hungry. Freedom of hunger should be one of the basic rights of people.”

Sandy’s path to becoming a philanthropist started when she was battling breast cancer in 2005. It was then



The Cycling Philanthropist

that she realized that she wanted to donate some of her funds while she was still alive and could enjoy seeing the benefits provided by her gifts. She is proud of her gifts to Roadrunner Food Bank, especially because it serves the whole state.

In addition to cycling, Sandy has a greenhouse which houses her collection of cacti and succulents where she applies techniques learned from studying with master gardeners. Having also studied painting in New York for many years, she is a gifted portraitist and has been in numerous juried shows. She is especially proud of having won Best of Show two times at the *Corrales Fine Arts Show*.

Sandy continues her cycling and holds the record for three different races in her age category in Senior Olympics. Her cycling group plans to ride their bikes to Souper Bowl on Saturday, January 30th. If you see a group of bikes parked alongside the Roadrunner building, you are sure Sandy is part of that group tasting the delicious vegetarian soups that she has advocated becoming part of Souper Bowl for the last few years.

Sandy says she loves Roadrunner’s new home and finds it much more accessible than the previous building. She thinks the renovations have made it a wonderful place to work for both staff and volunteers. Sandy said, “I’d like to see Roadrunner in that facility forever.” Thanks to the gifts of this interesting and generous woman, we are closer to fulfilling that dream.

Free Meeting Space
Introduces
Thousands of People
to Our Work
in Hunger Relief



Since September 2009 more than 2,000 people have benefitted from use of our free meeting space. Five various sized meeting spaces have hosted everything from board meetings to training sessions to banquets for 10 to 100 people.

If you are seeking free meeting space for your group, we can work together to meet your needs. All we ask you to do is let us show you around our warehouse during a 25-30 minute tour.

You can experience an educational and moving tour of our 166,000 square foot facility. Experience the gigantic sub-zero freezer! Discover how many bananas are in a truckload (about 92,400)! Find out what we really do and how we do it.

Cater your own refreshments or we can help you arrange them. Projectors, screens, computers, and conference call set up are available too.

Looking to build in community engagement with your group meeting? You can have a meeting here at the Food Bank and volunteer all during the same visit. Some of our groups enjoy volunteering for an hour or two before or after their meeting.

Our meeting room space is filling up quickly, so reserve with us soon. **Contact Robin Schold at (505) 349-5331, rschold@rffb.org, to start the process.**

Letter from President and CEO Melody Wattenbarger

When the current economic difficulties in our country turn for the better (and we fervently hope that happens sooner rather than later), we will have learned some things about each other that I hope we never forget. We will have learned that we care about each other and that when times are tough, we roll up our sleeves and do something about the situation. We will have learned that there is an essential goodness in people and in our communities that is something we should nourish and protect even when times are better.

For us at the Food Bank, this past year was like no other year in any of our memories. It was a year when millions of Americans joined the ranks of the hungry for the first time in their lives. It was a year when the resources of all of us involved in hunger relief were stretched to the limits. It was a year when we experienced despair and elation, hope and hopelessness, energy and exhaustion, frustration and optimism—often all in the course of a single day.

Last fall we learned the distressing news that 49 million Americans now face hunger. That's more hungry Americans than there have ever been in the years records have been kept about such things. Even more alarming is the fact that more than a third of all hungry people in our country are children. I've repeated these stark facts over and over since I first learned them, but I still cannot manage telling it without tears in my eyes.

Especially in these turbulent and frightening times, we all need to hear positive news, and we need reminders of the goodness of people. Since it is my great privilege to work at Roadrunner Food Bank, for me those reminders come daily, but particularly so in the holiday season.

On one November Saturday morning, we got one of those reminders we'll remember the rest of our lives. Sagebrush Church does a community project every month. They put out a call and once a month 130-150 volunteers go to a non-profit agency to do some kind of service project. On the Saturday when Roadrunner was their chosen project, our great team was prepared with work for 150 people.

A few minutes before the scheduled arrival time, the staff at the Food Bank knew that something very special was happening. Our parking lot filled up as did both sides of the street and every other parking lot in the vicinity. At the scheduled start time for Sagebrush Church volunteers, five hundred people were crammed into our lobby!

The volunteers knew that we were overwhelmed. They quickly organized themselves and set about doing everything they could find that needed to be done. They washed windows. They pulled weeds. They cleaned. They even had younger children coloring holiday notes to put in food boxes for seniors. And, of course, they did all the work we had planned for them to do...and then some.

This wonderful reminder of the goodness of people is something we'll all remember as long as we live, and we hope that it will add joy to your life as well. We wish all of our donors and supporters the happiest new year. You have changed the lives of thousands of hungry people for the better every single day and you have served as daily examples of how people of great good will and dedication can change the world.

Melody Wattenbarger

Souper Bowl 2010



Adult tickets – \$40
 Children's tickets –\$10
 (12 & under)

Thanks to our wonderful sponsors:



Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL



Purchase Your Souper Bowl Tickets Today and Help End Hunger in New Mexico!

Saturday, January 30, 2010 (11am - 2pm)

at Roadrunner Food Bank's warehouse at 5840 Office Blvd. NE

Albuquerque's top chefs and restaurants offer delicious soups and desserts. In addition to great food, guests enjoy live music, exciting prize drawing packages and the knowledge that they are helping Roadrunner Food Bank feed hungry people.

Celebrity judges and guests can vote for their favorite soup, vegetarian soup, dessert and booth. **Call (505) 349-8921 or purchase tickets online at www.rffb.org**

Participating Restaurants:

- Annapurna's World Vegetarian Café
- Bocado's, LLC
- Chama River Brewing Company
- Church Street Café
- Claudia Rae's Sandwich Shop
- Courtyard by Marriott Journal Center
- Cupcakeology
- Cyprus Grille (Embassy Suites & Spa)
- Farina Pizzeria and Wine Bar
- Gecko's Bar & Tapas
- Hotel Albuquerque Old Town
- Huwak'a Restaurant at Sky City Casino & Hotel
- Indulgence Café & Catering @JCC
- Johndhi's BBQ
- Just Muffin Around
- Just Ones Cakes and Catering
- Kelly's Restaurant and Brewery
- Lovelace Westside Hospital
- Lucia at Hotel Andaluz
- McGrath's at the Hyatt Regency Downtown
- One Up Elevated Lounge
- Romano's Macaroni Grill
- Saggio's
- Santa Ana Café at Hyatt Regency Tamaya
- Savory Fare
- Savoy Bar & Grill
- Seasons Rotisserie and Grill
- Slate Street Café
- St. Clair Winery and Bistro
- Standard Diner
- Sweet and Savory
- Sweet Blessing Bakery, Café and Catering
- The Chocolate Cartel
- The Rancher's Club of New Mexico
- Theobroma Chocolatier
- Timeline Catering
- Trattoria Trombino's Bistro Italiano
- Zinc Wine Bar & Bistro

A special thank you to **Adelante Development Center** for graciously providing our expanded shuttle service!

Food Bank Fleet on a Roll

Ask almost anyone and they will tell you they have, at some point, seen a Roadrunner Food Bank truck on the road. On any given day we have 13 vehicles in operation picking up precious donations of food and making anxiously awaited deliveries. Roadrunner's hard-working fleet and truck drivers cover more than 330,000 miles a year delivering 20 million pounds of food.

This past year, Roadrunner Food Bank had the good fortune to expand its fleet thanks to several generous donors.

In November 2009, Walmart selected Roadrunner Food Bank to receive one of 35 new 24' refrigerated trucks that they donated throughout the Feeding America network. Walmart made these trucks available through a competitive process to help food banks across the country take advantage of surplus donated food from retail stores. This truck's relatively small size makes it ideal for urban start-and-go driving and maneuvering into tight loading docks. By enhancing our ability to serve supermarkets that wish to donate rather than toss food, Walmart is helping to ensure that food is not going to waste.

The following month, we learned we are one of only 18 food banks nationwide who are receiving loans and accompanying

operational grants through Feeding America from the Kresge Foundation to be used solely for the purchase and first-year operation of vehicles for Mobile Food Pantry programs. In Roadrunner's case, the award will allow us to purchase two new tractor/trailer combinations this year. The loans are exceptional because they carry no interest the first year, and very little interest in successive years.

Several donors have already committed funds to raise a portion of the loan repayment. These donors include Smith's who provided a generous gift in mid 2009, the Rocking JT Foundation who provided a challenge gift, and the Rotary Club of Albuquerque Foundation. We also would like to thank Feeding America and the Kresge Foundation for helping Roadrunner Food Bank bring food to even more underserved people in New Mexico.



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Toll Free (866) 327-0267
www.rrfb.org

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"SCOUTING FOR FOOD " **Donate Non-Perishable Food on Saturday, Feb. 13**

Celebrate 100 years of scouting, and help the Scouts collect 100,000 pounds of food on February 13. In Albuquerque, Roadrunner Food Bank is the recipient of food collected thanks to the hard work of our local Scouts.

Scouts will distribute information about the food drive to households on Saturday, February 6. The Scouts will pick up non-perishable food donations left near front doors from households Saturday, February 13.

Community members can also bring a donation to any of the following locations:

- Any metro area Jiffy Lube
- LDS Church on the Westside located at 4500 Ellison Dr. NW between 10 am and noon
- Directly to Roadrunner Food Bank at 5840 Office Blvd. NE

For more information about Scouting for Food, call Andy Braman at 345.8603 ext. 18 or andy.braman@scouting.org.

Attention Golfers! The 2nd Annual Rotary Club of Albuquerque Red, White and Blue Charity Golf Tournament

Please join us on **August 28, 2010** for the 2nd Annual Rotary Club of Albuquerque, Red, White and Blue Charity Golf Tournament. The tournament benefits Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico and the Albuquerque Rotary Charitable Foundation.

The tournament will be held at Isleta Eagle Golf Course with a shotgun start at 9am. The format is a four person scramble and teams of four are \$600. Register online at www.golfdigestplanner.com/13971-Rotaryabqgolf2010/.

Last year the tournament raised \$34,000.

Corrales Bosque Gallery Hosts *"Food for Thought" Show*

**A Benefit for
Roadrunner Food
Bank**



Attention art enthusiasts!
Attend the "Food for Thought" Benefit Show on **Saturday, February 20th** from 10 am to 6 pm at Corrales Bosque Gallery located at 4685 Corrales Rd. Forty percent of sales during the show benefit Roadrunner Food Bank.

A special thank you to all the gallery artists who support this wonderful endeavor!

Visit www.corralesbosquegallery.com or call 898.7203 for information about the show.