



Nourishing News: E-Edition *April 2025*

You can help feed neighbors experiencing hunger in Berks and Schuylkill counties. Please support our mission today.

[Donate Now](#)



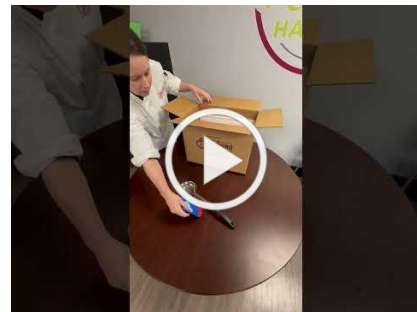
Celebrating Community & Hope in Schuylkill County

On April 24 we held our 2nd annual Celebration of Community and Hope in Schuylkill County at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnesville.

In his speech, President Jay Worrall outlined the expansion of our services in Schuylkill County over the past five years, noting that the value of food distributed in the county has increased by 278%. He also shared that we have increased the number of mobile markets in the county from two to 11 and more than tripled the number of weekender food bags distributed.

Jay concluded with a charge to those gathered, "Hunger is a solvable problem. It really is. Let's work together to make sure no child, no parent, no senior—no one—goes hungry in Schuylkill County."

[More Photos](#)



NOW OPEN: Helping Harvest Community Kitchen

We have now officially moved into the brand-new space at the Helping Harvest Community Kitchen and are preparing heat-and-eat ready meals for seniors in Berks & Schuylkill County.

Our **first meals** were prepared the week of April 21 and included pierogies (generously donated by Mrs. T's Pierogies) paired with vegetables. The meals were then sealed up using our **new packaging machine**, ready for distribution through our partners.

In lieu of this month's **Chef's Corner**, join Chef Amanda as she packs up and gets ready to move to the Kitchen.

[Watch Now](#)



Volunteer Spotlight: Donna

"Prior to volunteering, I didn't realize how much food insecurity exists in our area. Helping Harvest plays such an important part in helping so many families. I'm happy to be a part of it."

Since March 2022, Donna has been volunteering at the warehouse. Clocking 700 hours since then, she is a leader, teacher and friend to all!

Thanks for all that you do in support of Helping Harvest, Donna!

[Learn More](#)



Helping Starts Young!

Over the past month, we've had several kids take the initiative to help neighbors experiencing food insecurity by collecting food or money and donating it to us. **Alma** (pictured above at the warehouse with her family) raised over \$700 for Helping Harvest during Ramadan.

Jax & Ashlyn collected and donated 70 pounds of food and \$45! We are so grateful for these exceptional young people!

[Learn More](#)



National Volunteer Week & Month

We spent last week making our volunteers feel extra special for National Volunteer Week.

A big **thank you to the donors** who helped our volunteers feel loved last week with donations of treats and raffle items: Weis Markets, Adelpia Seafood, Kimberton Whole Foods, Wawa, Cafe 372, and our favorite "cookie lady" Rebecca Paul.

And thank you, volunteers, for your dedication!

In the News: Helping Harvest Featured in Republican Herald Article on Funding Cuts and Their Impact on Schuylkill County

In early April, Helping Harvest and President Jay Worrall were featured in a **Pottsville Republican Herald article** on how federal funding cuts are impacting food banks and neighbors experiencing food insecurity in Schuylkill County.

Of the cuts to federal programs like the Local Food Purchasing Assistance program and The Emergency Food Assistance program, Worrall said "This will be a major loss for us and will

definitely have a negative impact on the people we serve. It's really going to be very challenging for our clients."

How can you help fill the gaps that these funding cuts will create for food banks and our community partners? You can **contribute financially, donate food, give of your time through volunteering** or contact your elected officials to stress the importance of restoring this funding.



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