



WHAT'S ON OUR PLATE *February 2026*

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

[Donate Now](#)



Breaking Records at the Community Kitchen

The morning group of volunteers on February 13th—employees from Penske—absolutely SMASHED our Community Kitchen record for packaging meals in a single shift!

This amazing group packaged a whopping 2,225 meals in just a couple hours.

We are so grateful for the support of area businesses like Penske. Whether they volunteer with us in the kitchen, at the warehouse, or out at Mobile Markets, donate financially, or host food drives, the support of these companies and their employees is critical to our own ability to serve our community.

And this isn't the only milestone that was hit by the kitchen this month. We recently passed a total of 100,000 meals served from the Community Kitchen, including heat-and-eat ready meals, bulk ingredient repackaging, and hot congregate meals!



A Chilly (and Snowy) February

The weather sure has not been our friend this winter! Between several significant snow events in our service territory and bitterly cold temperatures that have kept the snow and ice hanging around, we've unfortunately had to play schedule Tetris with a number of distributions, most notably Mobile Markets.

We wanted to say a big thank you to the volunteers and staff who are faithfully outside in every and any kind of weather—snow, rain, wind, bitter cold, and more—working to serve our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. And thank you to the volunteers who answer our call on short notice, whether we need urgent help packing in the warehouse before a storm hits or helping hands to distribute food at a rescheduled Mobile Market. We say it all the time, but... **We couldn't do what we do without you!**

[Learn More](#)



Volunteer of the Month: Barb

For nearly 12 years, we at Helping Harvest have been blessed to have Ms. Barb volunteering with us! 1,300 hours later, her dedication, kindness and selflessness have made a huge impact on our organization. Barb has dabbled in many volunteer activities, such as agency pick-ups, Healthy Sprouts, and various warehouse shifts, but has found her calling at Mobile Markets.

When she's not distributing food to our neighbors, Barb keeps busy! She loves seeing her grandkids, as well as volunteering at her church where she runs the Operation Christmas Child Program. She loves to travel, and next on her bucket list are Australia and Scotland! In her downtime, you can find Barb reading and watching movies.

[Learn More](#)



Sandy's Milestone: 7,000 Volunteer Hours!

Congratulations to the volunteer who may as well be an employee—the wonderful Sandy—for hitting the amazing milestone of 7,000 volunteer hours with us on February 13th!

If you've ever visited the offices at our warehouse, you've likely run into Sandy, as she's there all the time (unless she's on a trip, of course). She even has her very own desk!

We celebrated Sandy with a celebration in the warehouse conference room, with lots of sweet treats and decorations.

Way to go, Sandy! Thanks for all of your hard work! We couldn't do what we do without you!

[Learn More](#)

You're Invited: 3rd Annual Schuylkill County Celebration of Community & Hope on April 30

Our **3rd Annual Schuylkill County Celebration of Community & Hope** will take place on Thursday, April 30, 2026 from 5-7:30pm at Mountain Valley Golf Course (1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA).

Join Mrs. T's Pierogies, AmeriHealth Caritas, and Lehigh Valley Health Network as a sponsor! Information on sponsorship opportunities is available in our **2026 Sponsorship Packet**. Individual tickets and sponsorships can be purchased using **this form**.

For additional questions about the event, or to discuss sponsorships, please contact Jen Bauman, Development and Stewardship Manager, at jbauman@helpingharvest.org or 610-

926-5802 x228. You can also find out more on our [News & Events page](#).

We hope you can join us for this special evening, helping to *cultivate kindness, one meal at a time!*

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR BERKS CELEBRATION:

Our 2026 Berks County Celebration of Community & Hope will take place at 5pm on October 1, 2026 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Reading (701 Penn Street Reading, PA).

The poster features a central graphic with the text "cultivating kindness" in a script font and "ONE MEAL AT A TIME" in a red box below it. The graphic is surrounded by illustrations of various vegetables like carrots, radishes, and leafy greens. Above the graphic, it says "Helping HARVEST FEEDING AMERICA" with logos for "BERKS COUNTY HELPING HARVEST FEEDING AMERICA" and "FRESH FOOD BANK". Below the graphic, it says "Together, we can end hunger in Schuylkill County" with a photo of a smiling child. At the top, it says "You're Invited!" and "Thurs., April 30, 2026 • 5pm" with the location "Mountain Valley Golf Course, Barnesville, PA". At the bottom, it says "3rd Annual Celebration of Community & Hope" and "Click for Tickets & Sponsorships".

Click for Tickets & Sponsorships

Mrs. Ts
Pierogies
Welcome Reception Sponsor

AmeriHealth Caritas
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Lehigh Valley Health Network
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