

# April 2024 Newsletter



## Our Food Rescue Program Has Expanded!

### New Partnerships with Santana Row and San Pedro Square, among others

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Since 2015, Hunger at Home has been a leader in food rescue. Now California has a new law that will allow us to expand our food rescue program exponentially and feed more people. Through SB 1383 – California’s new organic waste law – Hunger at Home is contracting with more businesses to serve as their food waste reduction partner. Instead of dumping leftover meals at the end of each day, restaurants at Santana Row, San Pedro Square, and many other establishments now package their unsold meals in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations. These perfectly edible meals are then recovered by our team and prepped for distribution to those facing food insecurity in our community.

The new law aims to reduce organic waste disposal by 75% by 2025. This is ambitious, but attainable. We can truly help eliminate hunger in our community with this legislation and feed more people in need.

Hunger at Home has developed an efficient and effective model to recover edible food and repurpose it into healthy and nutritious meals for food insecure families, children, and seniors. This model can be easily adopted and implemented at businesses throughout Silicon Valley.

“Ewell and the Hunger at Home team are experts in food recovery and have made the process easy for our food merchants and business owners. We are so proud of this program because of the benefits to the greater Santa Clara County community, as well as the participation and giving from our local community here at Santana Row,” said Runa Brakaj, Senior Area Manager of Operations, Federal Realty.

If you own a local business or know of a business that needs help to adhere with California’s new Organic Food Waste Law, contact Jeffrey Zheng at [jeffrey@hungerathome.org](mailto:jeffrey@hungerathome.org).

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# Help Us Feed People 365 Days a Year Join the Supper Club!



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Hunger doesn't just happen during the holidays.

1 in 4 people in Silicon Valley experience food insecurity every single day. In fact, a recent study concluded that 37% of people in Silicon Valley are food insecure - an increase since the pandemic.

That is why we started the Supper Club. Members of the Supper Club help us provide healthy and nutritious meals for those in need throughout the year.

Just \$10 a month allows us to distribute 75 meals. \$100 a month provides for 750 meals. Join our Supper Club today and put food on the table for a family tomorrow.

**Join the Supper Club**

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## Our Food Distribution Drive Through Is Busier Than Ever

Every Monday, hundreds of families drive to Pay Pal Park to receive fresh fruits and vegetables, cereal and canned goods, and prepared meals.

They come early to talk to staff and volunteers and thank them. 75% of those coming through our drive through distribution are families with children or seniors over 60. With inflation at an all-time high, the need is greater than ever. Our



dedicated team of volunteers can always use more help.

"Volunteering here is one of the most gratifying parts of my week," said Mary Lynn Pelican, a member of the Cupertino Rotary who has been volunteering weekly for years. "It's like a big family helping each other."

Come volunteer with us! We guarantee it will be the best Monday you have ever had.

Pay Pal Park every Monday from 9 – 10 AM.



**Sign Up to Volunteer!**

## Staff Spotlight!

### Meet Janelle Ferrer, Director of Culinary Operations

Janelle has worked in every aspect of culinary operations and across many industries - from corporate catering and convention centers to now working at Hunger at Home. She oversees all aspects of our culinary efforts from repurposing rescued food into meals for our weekly food distribution to developing fresh haute cuisine for our catering clients.

Born in the Philippines, Janelle has lived in California most of her life, but she has traveled extensively. Travel is a way to authentically experience different cultures and cuisines. Janelle likes to bring that authenticity into her kitchen.

Janelle is grateful to help change lives through her work. Having worked for years in commercial kitchens, Janelle was aware of how much waste there is in the food business. At Hunger at Home, Janelle and her team are able to make an impact on waste generated in the food industry and help end hunger.



When asked about her favorite thing to cook or eat, Janelle laughed, saying, "I don't like that question. It's whatever I'm craving right now."



**Contact Us!**

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