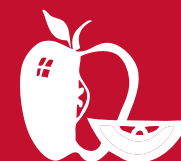


Return Service Requested



Winter 2008

Benefit Dinner



John Schmidt in front of Southlake Grill.

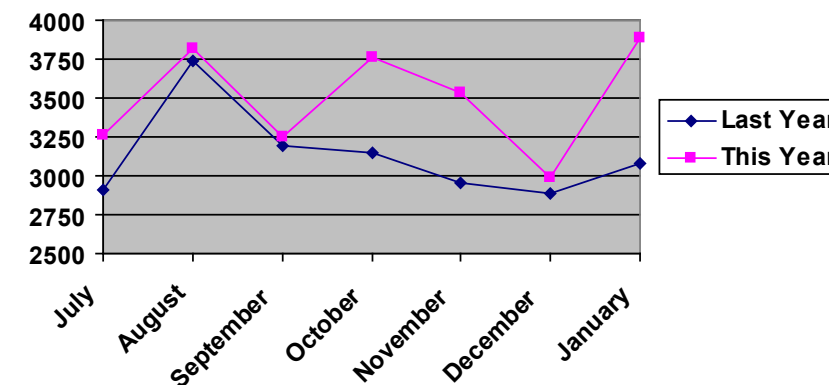
Everyone appreciates a vacation this time of year, no matter how short the distance, including the supporters of the University District Food Bank who traveled to Seattle's Eastlake, Greenlake, and Lake Union neighborhoods on December 5, for our annual benefit dinner.

For the 5th year in a row, John Schmidt, owner of the Greenlake Bar & Grill, Eastlake Bar & Grill, and Southlake Grill hosted a benefit at his restaurants. Guests enjoyed delicious food and beautiful lakeside views while a portion of all proceeds was donated to the food bank. Between the three locations, we raised \$4725 that will help fund our daily operations. In addition, restaurant patrons donated 500 lbs. of nonperishable food items that were distributed directly to food bank families.

We want to offer our sincere gratitude to John and his incredible staff for their longstanding history of supporting the Food Bank. Their generosity helps us to provide individuals and families who are in need with food and access to a network of community resources that helps them achieve self-sufficiency.

For those who participated this year, thank you for your support. And for those who weren't able to attend, we hope to see you next time.

Customer Visits, a Year-to-Year Comparison



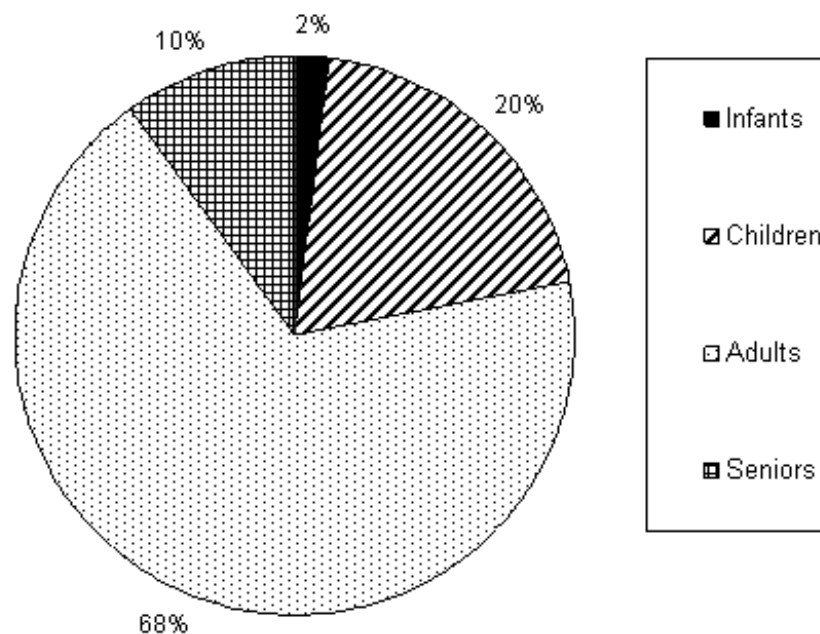
This graph compares the number of monthly visits we've had in the first half of this fiscal year to the first half of last fiscal year.

Carl and Jerrolee Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage



Long time food bank operations manager Carl Ostrom celebrated his 65th wedding anniversary to his lovely wife, Jerrolee on December 5th, 2007. We want to extend our congratulations to the happy couple and to thank them both for their support of the UDFB.

2007 Customer Demographics



2007 Service Statistics

- 38,779 customer visits by 4300 different families
- 1,370,760 pounds of food distributed
- 235 days open
- 14,327 volunteer hours

The University District Food Bank assists low-income individuals residing within zip codes 98102, 98103, 98105, 98112, 98115, and 98125.

Food for Thought is published quarterly by the University District Food Bank for our volunteers, donors, and the public at large.

The University District Food Bank is a program of the University District Service League, a registered 501 (c) (3).

Staff

Joe Gruber, Executive Director
Bill Lowie, Assistant Director
Carl Ostrom, Operations Manager
Paul Yunker, Development Director

Board

Erika Arthun, Secretary
Carol Cabe
Laura Collins
Cary Eckert
Chris Heldridge, Treasurer
Megan Knight
Karen Ko
Kelly Malone, Vice-President
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Rosanna Stephens, President
Elizabeth Tutmarc
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Thank You UW!

Thanks to the many UW faculty, staff and students who donated during our annual holiday food drive last November. Together, they contributed more than \$4000 and over 7500 pounds of food. We are most grateful for your continued support.

Letter From The Director

Dear Friends:

We need your help.

Perhaps you've heard in the national and local media that donations to food banks are down. This is unfortunately true. Food coming through our normal channels is less than what it has been in the past. Not tremendously less but by a noticeable amount.

Normally this is not a problem. We spend money each month to buy food to fill our shelves. However, this year it doesn't seem like it will be enough.

From our customer visit graph on the front page, you can see that we've been over busy these last six months. For instance, in January 2008, we had 25% more customers than in January 2007. Translated into pounds of food, that meant 60,000 more pounds of food was distributed in January 2008 than in January 2007. That's equivalent to the weight of one of our city's new street cars (seattlestreetcar.com). Wow!

We're efficient at what we do - we receive food weekly from Food Lifeline and Northwest Harvest, volunteers and staff pick-up grocery store and business donations 6 days a week, we have food drives in the community, and we buy food in bulk to save money. But now it is not quite enough.

I hope you will consider making an extra gift to the food bank this month to help us get through our busy winter months and be ready for spring. Your contribution will help ensure that we have three days of healthy food available to everyone who comes to us. Thank you.

In peace,
Joe



Feinstein Challenge continued...

Donations can be made via cash, check or online.

This is a unique opportunity to leverage your donation. The more you donate, the more of the Feinstein \$1 million the University District Food Bank will receive! In addition, donated food items will be given a dollar value so they count for the challenge as well. Make sure to note that you want your donation to count for the Feinstein Challenge.

For more information on The Feinstein Foundation 2008 National \$1 Million Giveaway to Fight Hunger visit www.feinsteinfoundation.org.

Feinstein Challenge

You can help the University District Food Bank get its share of \$1,000,000!

Make a contribution during the months of March and April and your donation will help us to secure funds from The Feinstein Foundation 2008 National \$1 Million Giveaway to Fight Hunger.

A philanthropist and humanitarian at heart, Alan Shawn Feinstein is the author of several best-selling financial guides and newsletters. He is passionate about fighting hunger and is the founder of the Alan Shawn Feinstein World Hunger Program at Brown University.

For the tenth straight year, Mr. Feinstein, through his foundation, has issued a unique fundraising challenge to hunger fighting agencies nationwide for the months of March and April. Mr. Feinstein will divide \$1 million among participating organizations in an effort to put a spotlight on hunger issues and jump start fundraising.



Each agency that participates will track the donations they receive in the months of March and April and report the total amount to the Feinstein Foundation. The \$1 million will then be divided proportionately among all participating agencies.

That means if the University District Food Bank were to raise even 0.5% of the total funds raised, we would receive 0.5% of \$1,000,000. That would mean \$5,000 extra to support our daily operations.

In 2007, 1,718 organizations from around the nation raised \$148 million dollars to fight hunger. Over 60 organizations in Washington State participated—raising \$3 million in just two months to support families in our community and across the state.

If you have been thinking about making a contribution to the Food Bank, please consider making your donation between March 1st and April 30th.

Volunteer Spotlight: Carol Cabe



With her welcoming smile and genuine enthusiasm, Carol Cabe has been strategically helping the UDFB since 2002. She is a Director on the Food Bank's Board and recently completed a successful two year term as the Board President. She has also served as Board Secretary and consistently plays a meaningful role in the Food Bank's fundraising efforts.

Carol attended her first UDFB board auction five years ago. She recalled that the food bank made about \$20,000 gross. This year's auction grossed over \$100,000. "That's great progress" said Carol. It is great progress and Carol continues to be an important part of that progress. For the 2007 auction alone, she received corporate sponsorship from her employer, she gathered together two full tables of people for auction night, and even donated a bead making party to the auction. Since Carol hosts the bead making party, it has been an incredibly popular live auction item for quite a few years.

As you might imagine, Carol has a lot of fun in life. When she's not hosting bead parties or attending Board meetings, she loves playing with her dog, Carly and spending time with her great husband. They recently moved from Phinney Ridge to Crown Hill so Carly has the opportunity to run around in a bigger backyard. By day, Carol is a Senior Manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers. She is also a Pacific Northwest native and earned her undergraduate degree in accounting at the UW and a master's degree in software engineering from Seattle University. She came to us with previous experience in not-for-profit Board membership with Camp Fire USA and Center for Human Services.

Carol's commitment to and belief in the UDFB and its Board is apparent. She has seen the board evolve quite a bit of the past few years. It easy to tell that Carol has a great amount of respect for the board members that came before her and is very excited about the Food Bank's current direction: "The board benefits from significant talent." Yes, Carol, the Board does benefit from significant talent and you are a very important part of that talent pool. Thank you for all that you do.