

Good Cheer Food Bank & Thrift Stores



2009 Annual Report



Multiple efforts help create a hunger-free community

Volunteers and Donors Meet the Challenge Posed by Increased Food Needs of the Community

Record numbers of South Whidbey residents turned to Good Cheer Food Bank at least once in 2009 — 1,002 more than the previous year.

Thanks to volunteers and our generous community, Good Cheer was able to meet increased needs brought about by the economic recession.

All indicators were up in 2009 — monetary donations, in-kind food donations, volunteer hours, and thrift store patronage.

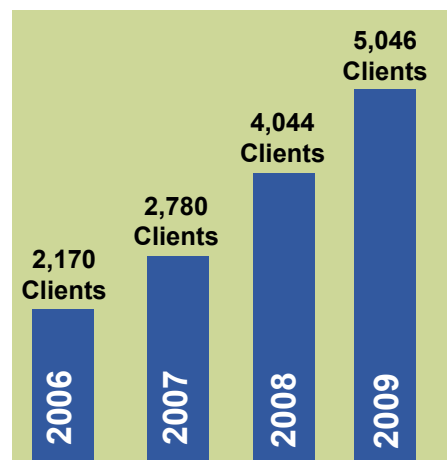


More than 200 volunteers had a hand in creating Good Cheer's on-site garden. They turned over the soil, built garden boxes, installed a watering system, planted, weeded, harvested, and did whatever was needed.

Under the expert direction of Cary Peterson, the garden yielded 5,552 pounds of fresh, nutritious produce which was picked daily and deposited yards away to the Food Bank. It doesn't get more local than this!

The garden also produced new partnerships and was a magnet for people who loved growing good, nutritious food in an organically sound manner. Donated produce from home gardens tripled this year, thanks to a heightened awareness of and interest in gardening.

In-kind food donations were 25,000 pounds higher than in 2008—a record 302,901 pounds in all.



Volunteers, such as Ula Lewis, Good Cheer's 'coupon lady,' saved the Food Bank thousands of dollars through her savvy shopping efforts.

Food Bank volunteers registered, helped, and checked out groceries for up to 94 families a day—a new record!

It took a lot of hard work

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2009 Timeline

MLK Day brought out scores of volunteers to help create Good Cheer's new onsite garden.



GC staff and board members served at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast in April.

Local chefs taught healthy cooking classes using garden produce.



Serving South Whidbey for 48 Years

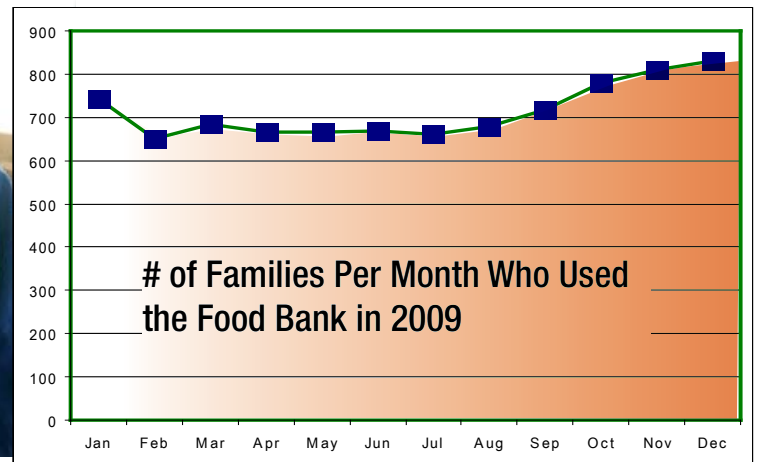
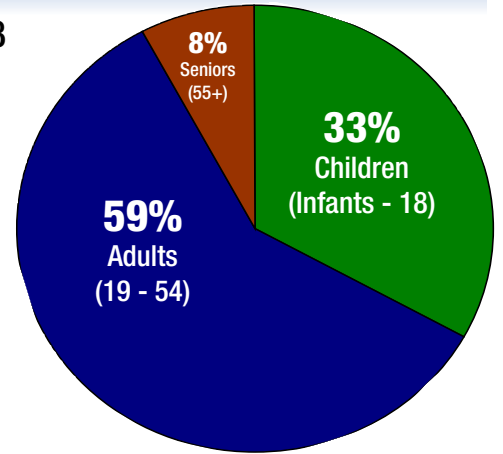
In 2009 the Food Bank served **5,046 people** — up 1,002 from 2008

1,665 Children (infants to age 18)

2985 Adults (Age 19 to 54)

396 Seniors (55+)

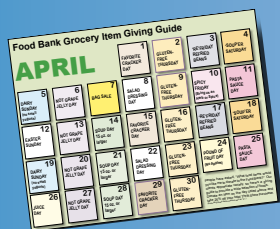
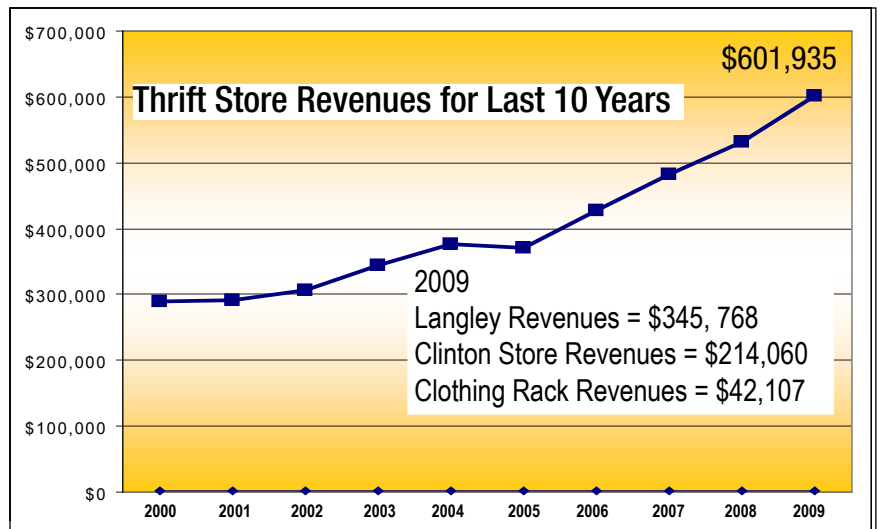
More than 5,000 South Whidbey residents were helped by the Food Bank at least once in 2009. An average of 713 families a month came through the Food Bank last year.



Thrift Store Sales Up 12%

Another banner year for Good Cheer Thrift store as revenues increased by \$66,490 (up 12% from 2008) for a total of \$601,935.

More people are shopping at our Thrift Stores during the recession, and that's good for Good Cheer because 67% of operational funding comes from our Thrift Stores.



Food Bank calendars helped add to the variety of donated food items.



Volunteer Bobby Crosby with other volunteers and staff took apart donated fixtures and display units from Linds Pharmacy and then reset them at Good Cheer's Langley and Clinton Thrift Stores.



A donor and volunteer database program called 'Salesforce' was implemented with the help of volunteers Evan Callahan, Margaret Delp, Ruth Cox, and Stephanie Zea (pictured).

Three volunteer Forums were held in 2009.

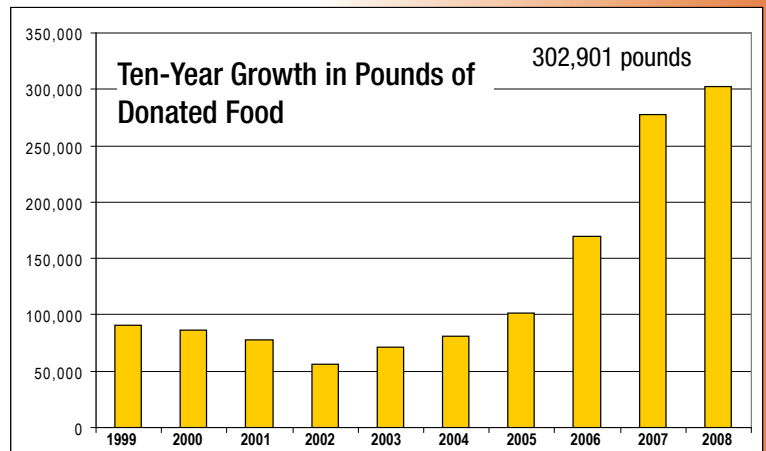


In-Kind Food Donations Stay High

In-kind donations were up in 2009 by 24,833 pounds above the previous year to 302,901 pounds. This includes 5,552 pounds of fresh produce from our garden.

We are thankful for food drives held by churches, schools, businesses and service organizations. We are especially grateful to people who asked for food donations in lieu of presents for birthdays, weddings and anniversaries.

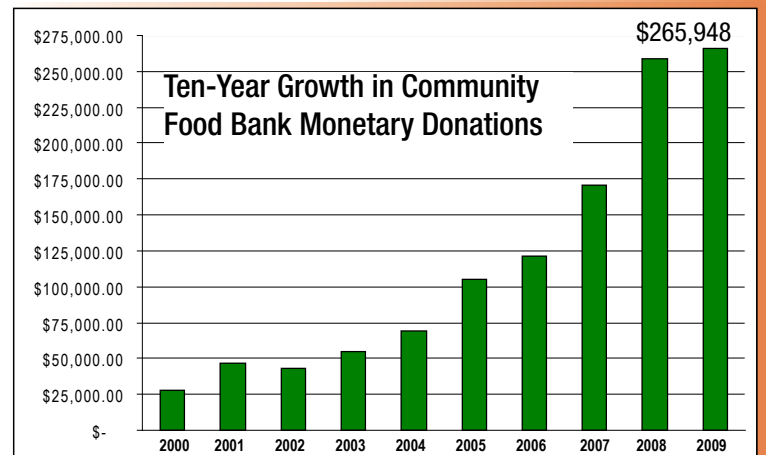
These donations add variety to what the Food Bank is able to purchase through regional distribution centers.



Monetary Donations Stay Strong

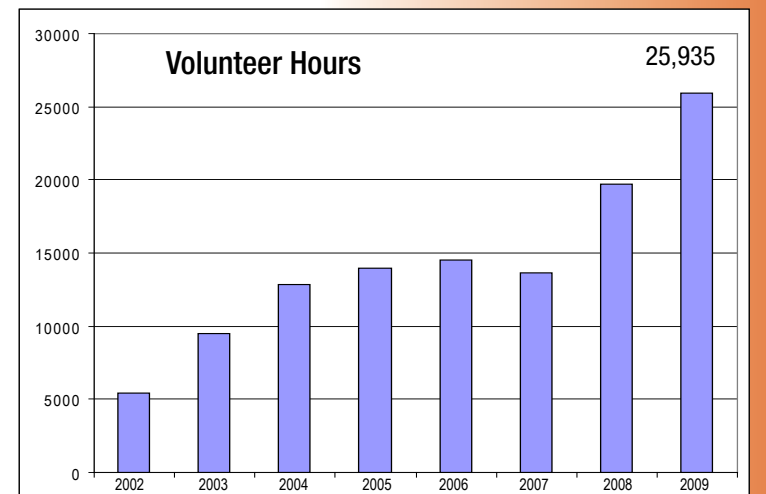
Monetary donations to the Food Bank were up again over last year, to \$265,948, which is amazing in today's economy and shows what a generous caring community South Whidbey is.

This figure did not include capital campaign donations, or donations for Whidbey Island Nourishes, for which Good Cheer serves as a sponsoring agency.



Volunteer Hours Up 31%

Volunteer hours rose by more than 6,000 hours over 2008 for a total of 25,935 hours which if paid for at the nonprofit standard formula of \$12 an hour equates to \$311,220. More than 30 new volunteers came onboard, plus many garden volunteers.



Good Cheer's colorful presence in the Island County Fair Parade keeps growing every year.



A composting workshop was a big hit at September's Harvest Party & MusicFest.



JaNoah Spratt (center) and martial arts classmates raised holiday funds for Good Cheer.

to keep up with increased needs, but once again volunteers stepped up to the challenge.

Volunteers also designed and built a mobile express checkout stand to use during extra busy times in the Food Bank.

Dozens of other great ideas were generated and shared at the three Volunteer Forums which took place in 2009.

At Good Cheer's Thrift Stores, managers, staff and volunteers worked hard to produce another year of record sales—up \$66,490 from 2008. In the past five years, sales revenue has increased more than \$231,600! The thrift stores' frequent buyer card—an idea generated by store managers—is proving increasingly popular.

Reflecting upon another successful year of serving our community, I am filled with deep gratitude, and speak on behalf of Good Cheer's Board and staff in saying that we are thankful for our community's outpouring of support. We realize that there are many organizations asking for support, and we do not take your support for granted.

WE ARE THANKFUL to our volunteers (currently at 345) who are the backbone of Good Cheer. Many thanks to the additional 200 volunteers who worked in the on-site garden.

WE ARE THANKFUL to our community for their generous monetary donations which allowed us to keep our shelves stocked. Good Cheer spent \$197,806 in

food purchases in 2009—made possible in large part by individual donations and the many fund-raisers that groups held—everything from poetry readings to dinners to concerts.

WE ARE THANKFUL to people who made food donations which added variety to Food Bank shelves.

WE ARE THANKFUL for the many community members who requested food bank donations in lieu of birthday presents, wedding gifts, or anniversary gifts. Thank you for your generosity.

WE ARE THANKFUL to our Thrift Store customers, whose purchases resulted in a 12% increase in sales.

WE ARE THANKFUL to people who brought in item donations (12,752 drop-offs in 2009), or called our team to pick up furniture and appliances to sell in our Thrift Stores.

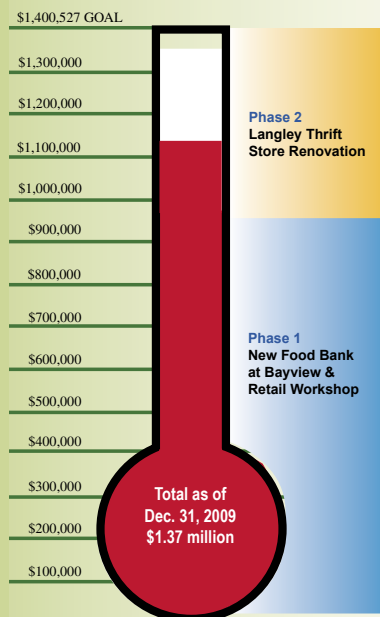
WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOU!

Kathy McLaughlin

Good Cheer
Executive Director

Capital Campaign Is at 81% of Its Goal

Campaign Goals



The capital campaign ended the year with donations at \$1.137 million toward its \$1.4 million goal.

The bridge loan for the Bayview facility and property was burned at September's Harvest Party (see below), marking the completion of Phase I of the campaign.

Good Cheer's building committee is currently examining the best way to approach Phase II renovations for the Langley Thrift Store, and we look forward to the sounds of hammers and saws this fall.



Good Cheer volunteers and staff marched in style in the Holiday Parade.

Volunteer Chris Halloran donated a shopping spree to the Food Bank, and the Good Cheer team cheered its captain onto victory with more than \$3,000 in groceries.



Managers, staff and volunteers worked hard on several innovative events in their stores such as late night holiday shopping events like Peppermint Saturday Night in Clinton and Gingerbread Saturday Night in Langley.

