



Harvest
Compassion
Center



IMPACT
2023



What is Food Banking Re-imagined?

Harvest Compassion Center is a one-stop-shop for free assistance with groceries, hygiene, baby, and clothing items. HCC's mission is to offer a hope-filled environment where we feed and clothe anyone who walks through the doors at our three Valley locations. HCC is a mini-mart, upscale clothing boutique, and kids' play corner all rolled into one. Dignity, respect, and choice are our standards. We count it a privilege to serve, care for, and impact each individual we meet. Take a look at the impact HCC made in 2023...

IMPACT 2023

16,618 Families Served

Equates to 83,090 individuals
of which 42,479 are children

587,000 Pounds Of Food, Hygiene, And Baby Items Distributed

81,480 Clothing Items Distributed

94,375 Diapers Distributed

7,443 Bibles/Children's Bedtime Stories Distributed

16,989 Total Volunteer Hours Served



Food Banking Re-imagined

is strengthening and bringing communities together

ONE family at a time!

Harvest Compassion Center North Phoenix has served the greater North Phoenix/Scottsdale communities for 15 years. As the top underserved region in Arizona, we have a vested interest in ensuring that families will always have HCC North Phoenix in their own backyard as lack of transportation continues to be one of the biggest barriers for families who need assistance. What an honor it has been to watch this location blossom into a community staple, where families needing assistance can turn.





26,280 Individuals served

182,000 Pounds of product

27,006 Clothing Items distributed

24,484 Diapers distributed

2,274 Bibles/ Children's Bedtime Stories distributed

6,858 Volunteer Hours served

“When you walk into HCC North Phoenix, you don't just see people experiencing food insecurity. You see kids and families connecting with volunteers as they shop for food and clothing. You see smiles and hugs. You hear laughter and thankfulness. And you feel kindness, love, and compassion.”

— **Lori Schweighardt**
Community Resource
Coordinator

- 
- 33,030** Individuals served
 - 235,000** Pounds of product
 - 31,529** Clothing Items distributed
 - 29,256** Diapers distributed
 - 2,570** Bibles/ Children's Bedtime Stories distributed
 - 5,590** Volunteer Hours served



Harvest Compassion Center Maryvale has been impacting families throughout the West Valley for six years. Families from all over the West Valley utilize this location for life's essentials, making it our busiest location in the Valley. Whether an individual is between jobs, having trouble finding affordable housing, or going through a medical crisis, HCC Maryvale is happy to welcome them through our doors! Some families who visit come once a quarter or twice a year, yet others may need to visit every 30 days. Whatever their individual need, we're honored to be a stronghold they can count on.

“At HCC Maryvale we are all about relationships. Watching families grow together, forming friendships with other families, building relationships with our staff and our volunteers is truly a blessing to see. We have a lot of fun being together, too! The love shared in the center during our shopping days continues beyond the four walls of Maryvale, impacting our community in big ways. I am reminded daily what a gift it is to love others through sharing a laugh, a tear, or a prayer.”



— **Paul Thompson**
HCC Manager



- 23,780** Individuals served
- 170,000** Pounds of product
- 22,945** Clothing Items distributed
- 40,635** Diapers distributed
- 2,649** Bibles/Children's Bedtime Stories distributed
- 4,511** Volunteer Hours served

Entering its fourth year, Harvest Compassion Center West Phoenix continues to be our fastest-growing location, serving families throughout the central Valley. Adding additional open hours last year allowed us to keep up with the growing demand. This center welcomes diverse families from all over the world as they transition to life in the U.S., individuals experiencing homelessness, and a growing number of seniors who are no longer able to live comfortably on their Social Security benefits. Many of our clients are alone, worried, and desperate; they have no family to turn to during their time of need. We are so thankful that they trust HCC to become their 'family,' helping connect them to additional community resources, products, and hope.





“West Phoenix has such a beautiful culture of community, diversity, and love. Since opening HCC West Phoenix additional days this year, we have gotten to meet even more families! Our volunteers have created relationships with families and there are always smiles and laughter shared. We get to be a part of their journey, helping to fill the gap by providing food, clothing, hygiene, and baby products. We love getting to see families return as volunteers and celebrate the impact HCC is making in the Valley!”

— **Mary Savoca**
Processing Coordinator





BACK-2-SCHOOL SPECIAL OUTREACH



**1,050 KIDS RECEIVED
BRAND-NEW WATER BOTTLES**



Harvest Compassion Center's Eighth Annual Back-2-School outreach focused on making sure local kids had new, reusable water bottles to take with them to school. A growing number of local community partners began providing ample backpacks and school supplies, enabling HCC to focus on gaps where kids still had needs. The gap: water bottles!

As our summer triple-digit heat lasts well into the fall school year, it is essential that every kid own a water bottle they can refill throughout their school day. This year's donations served a total of 1,050 kids. The majority of kids who got to pick out their new, favorite water bottle shared that this was the first time they wouldn't have to share it with others. Thank you to all who put smiles on all these kiddos' faces right before school kicked off!



CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE SPECIAL OUTREACH

HCC has officially now collected and distributed Christmas toys for a decade! This year's tenth annual toy drive collected over 10,000 toys that were handed out to 3,009 local kids during the month of December.

Once again, we asked our community for toy donations and 87 local donors sure did deliver — individuals, companies, schools and more! HCC is thrilled to announce that during the entire month of December we never had to turn away a single family. We were able to welcome and assist every family who asked us for help with Christmas toys.



A frazzled mom arrived and told our team she knew she was really late, and Christmas was only two days away. But still she asked if there was a chance we had anything left for her to give her kids on Christmas morning. Our volunteer, with a huge smile on her face, replied "Yes, we'll be able to take care of your kids!"

The mom's shoulders relaxed as tears filled her eyes and all she could say was, "Thank you! I don't even care what it is, just thank you!"

It's moments like these that continue to drive us all during our busiest month of the entire year!



3,009 LOCAL KIDS RECEIVED CHRISTMAS TOYS!



“This past year at HCC was full of moments of connection. As a team, that is the heart of our work and hearing stories from our clients is the most impactful part of my job at HCC.”



– **Lauren Sullivan**
Communications Manager

“One of the many things I love about being a part of HCC is how we are united in the same mission to serve individuals and families in our local communities with compassion and the love of Jesus.”



– **Lori Schweighardt**
Community Resource
Coordinator

“HCC means the world to me!! My life is so full of joy and I love being able to help the families who come in! Being a part of this amazing family is truly a blessing!”

“HCC fills my heart! I most enjoy the community and everyone I work with.”

“HCC has a culture of caring for the community and doing life together. It is a blessing to serve here each day.”



– **Paul Thompson**
HCC Manager

– **Mary Savoca**
Processing
Coordinator

– **Keri Wilson**
Shift Lead/Center
Assistant

“It is a privilege to welcome each guest that walks through our doors, and I am blessed that I get to be a part of what HCC is doing in the community.”



– Gabby Vazquez
Center Assistant

“HCC is making such a difference in our community, and it is only possible through the generosity of our incredible partners. I love getting to witness the Lord work in and through the lives of our faithful supporters and then see the impact made on families HCC gets the privilege of welcoming and serving.”



– Adrie Olson
Volunteer Coordinator

“HCC’s volunteers are the absolute best. I’m beyond thankful for so many wonderful people who are passionate about caring for others. They go above and beyond with each client we serve. Clients comment every day about how HCC is different, how people are nice and welcoming and actually want to be here.”



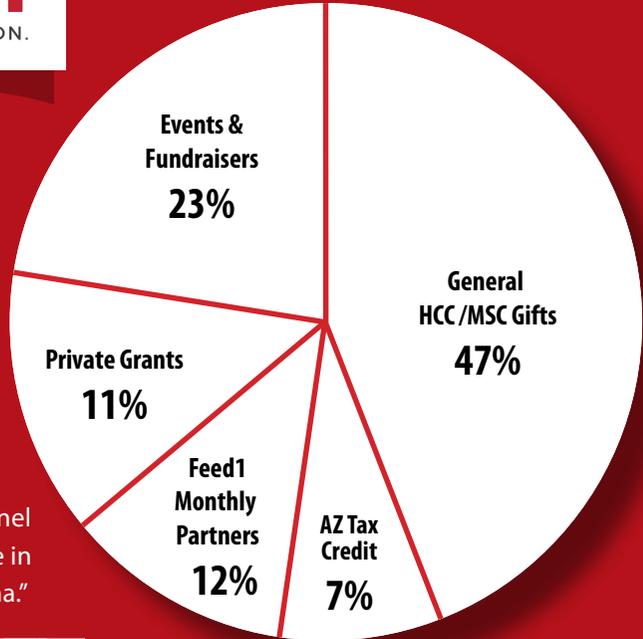
– Jenni Torres
Development Coordinator

Harvest Compassion Centers accept no government funding and/or food product to serve our local neighbors. We partner with local churches, schools, businesses, and families to feed, clothe, and serve one family at a time!



How Harvest Compassion Centers are funded

“We are especially proud to partner with HCC throughout the year in bringing help and hope to struggling Arizona families. At a time when the cost-of-living increases have made it tough for everyone, you have been able to continually say YES to those in need. It is a true testament to your passion and ability to connect with like-minded businesses (AZTV Channel 7) and inspire them to join the cause in making a better and stronger Arizona.”



— **Lynn Londen**,
CEO AZTV7
& **Brian Cisek**,
Production Manager



Total Raised in 2023:
\$1,593,222.00



“The Preiss Company chose to partner with Harvest Compassion Center because of our shared mission of HOPE. Our team believes that everyone should have the opportunity to be the best version of themselves and the work and outreach that HCC is doing in the Phoenix area made them a perfect organization to work with as part of The Preiss Company’s community outreach initiative. It was an absolute joy to participate in HCC’s ongoing efforts and the impact that HCC’s story and mission had on our team will be felt for many years to come.”

– **Adam Byrley**, Chief Operating Officer, The Preiss Company



“The Scottsdale Charros are proud to support the Harvest Compassion Center’s work to combat food insecurity in our community. Their work with Scottsdale children, specifically those attending SUSD public schools, makes a huge impact in combatting both immediate hunger and the long-term negative effects lack of nutrition has on their mental, physical, and emotional development. HCC has been a great partner to the Charros, and we appreciate not just their passion, but also their accountability to donors and to the community they serve.”

– **The Scottsdale Charros**



“Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation partners with organizations to drive positive health outcomes in vulnerable populations. Harvest Compassion Center works directly to this mission by providing nutritional food to those in need, improving the health and wellness of those in need in our community.”

– **Barb Kozuh**, Executive Director
Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation



2023 EVENTS



For the fourth straight year, HCC partnered with Arizona Gives Day, rallying donors and partners from all over the state to create a larger impact during 24 hours of giving! With matching gift sponsors pledging \$50,000, AZ Gives Day 2023 brought in \$112,305.66!



This year's virtual fall event brought together over 50 teams from five different states to raise funding and awareness for HCC. Each team worked incredibly hard and brought in our largest event total, raising over \$200,000 to feed, clothe, and love local families!



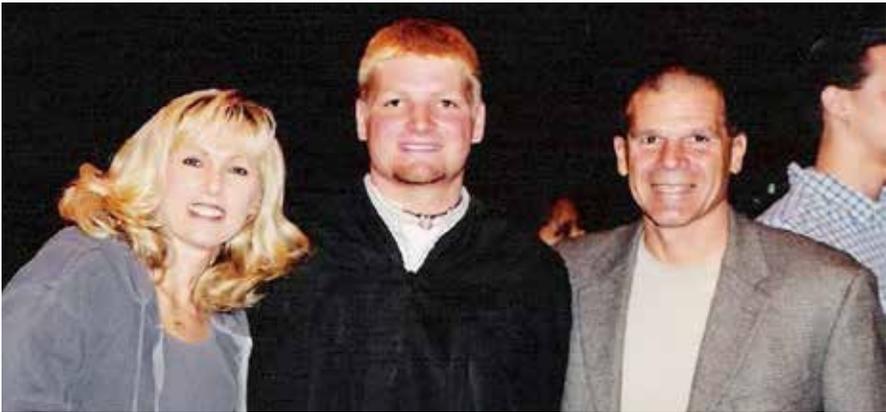


**Fifteen years
of service!**



As Harvest Compassion Center (HCC) enters our 15th year of service we remember, once again, the person who inspired us to create, transform, and execute our mission. His name is Mitch.

“Mitch had such a loving and caring heart to help others, especially those who needed it the most. After Mitch went home to be with the Lord at the young age of 23, we knew we needed to carry on his legacy. Mitch loved making a difference in peoples’ lives and what better way to honor him than by first creating Mitchell Swaback Charities, Inc., which then launched Harvest Compassion Center(s). Mitch taught us what it meant to serve, and we are so blessed to be part of the HCC.”



Bob and Gaye Swaback, Mitch’s parents and HCC Co-Founders.

“Mitch was larger than life! We’re still not sure how he was able to impact so many people while here on earth for only a short time, but he did. At Mitch’s funeral 19 years ago, we got to meet, greet, and hug hundreds of strangers who Mitch had personally impacted, and it cemented a lasting impression in our hearts — *it was true, one single individual can make a huge difference.* We continue to be incredibly humbled and honored to live out Mitch’s legacy of serving others. People often wonder after they pass away what impact will they have left on others. We are so blessed not to wonder, but instead we’re able to witness the impact of HCC daily. Through the relentless hard work being accomplished by our staff, volunteers, and partners, Mitch’s impact is still very much alive.”

In 2023, HCC welcomed over 3,000 brand-new families who had never had to ask for help before, or Googled the words “food bank”. This is HCC’s single-largest annual client increase to date! As the need for HCC’s free services continues to increase, we take a moment to say thank you: to our volunteers who graciously donate their time



Mitch and brother-in-law Paul.



and talents; to our walk-in donors who unload carloads of donations including gently used clothing and brand-new grocery and hygiene products; to our community partners who continue to lean in together to help meet each individual family’s needs; to our financial donors who fund 100% of our mission as HCC continues to accept no government funding; and to every single voice who shares HCC with a friend! You allowed us to feed, clothe, and love over 83,000 individuals last year!

We cannot predict the future, but we are excited about the year ahead as we continue to make sure every man, woman, and child who walks through HCC’s doors will be seen, loved, and given the attention and hope that Mitch once shared.

I encourage you to flip through this Impact Guide once again, this time taking long looks at each smile you see. Each person pictured is why HCC exists; a stranger who became a friend, who trusts our team to walk alongside them during some of their darkest days. How beautiful is that!

Grateful for every opportunity,

Nicolee

Nicolee Thompson
Executive Director



Will you become our newest **VOLUNTEER** or **FEED1** partner?

HCC is in need of volunteers at all three locations six days a week! Volunteers work in our mini-marts, clothing boutiques and back-of-the-house processing areas. No special talents needed, just comfortable shoes and a smile, and families are welcome to serve together. Sign up today at www.harvestcompassioncenter.org and click on the VOLUNTEER button. And don't forget, we are always in need of your gently used clothing donations at all HCC locations.



We invite you to **FEED1** family with us today!

Can you imagine having to tell your child that there isn't anything to eat?

One out of seven kids in Arizona don't have reliable access to the healthy food they need to grow, learn and thrive. When families do not know when or where they will eat their next meal, they often make difficult choices in order to meet their basic needs, sacrificing things like medical care, utilities and/or transportation.

Harvest Compassion Center's goal is to bring community members together to feed, clothe, and love every single family we meet.

Your monthly gift of just \$28 provides one family with food, hygiene, baby and clothing items! Join the **FEED1 Team** at



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harvestcompassioncenter.org

and click on our Donate tab.





harvestcompassioncenter.org

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