



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



A Publication of the Presbytery of Middle Tennessee Hunger Program
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Manna/Food Security Partners Now Community Food Advocates

New Name, Same Mission



Community Food Advocates is a new organization with a rich history and a big mission: to end hunger and create a healthy, just, and sustainable food system. Formed in December 2009 through the merger of **Manna**, a 35-year old organization dedicated to addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty, and **Food Security Partners of Middle Tennessee**, established in 2007 with a mission of ensuring that everyone has access to healthy, affordable food from a just and sustainable food system.

With this merger, **Community Food Advocates** will be working with farmers, parents, students, persons of faith, community gardeners, and health advocates to ensure that all members of our community have access to food grown in a way that promotes the health of people, planet, and community. Specific initiatives include:

- **Growing Healthy Kids**, which aims to improve the health and well-being of our community's school-aged children by improving their access to healthy and nutritious foods at school,
- **Re/Storing Nashville**, which advocates for increased access to affordable, healthy food in Nashville's food deserts,
- **Food Stamp Outreach and Advocacy**, which aims to improve access to food for low-income and vulnerable people through the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP),
- and other food advocacy work on both the personal and policy levels.

Food ties everyone together as individuals and communities, which gave inspiration for the new motto for Community Food Advocates: "Everybody Eats." For more information, visit www.communityfoodadvocates.org.



Bring the Music Back T-shirts

Whole Foods Market is raising money for

Field of Greens: a Fund to Benefit Middle Tennessee's Sustainable Farms. The Fund will provide financial support to Middle Tennessee farmers impacted by the recent historic flooding through sales of a limited edition t-shirt designed with the slogan "Bring the Music Back." T-shirts are available in for \$15 at Whole Foods in Nashville (Green Hills) and Cool Springs.



The Nashville Walk

Nashville CROP Walk was held in Centennial Park on Sunday, April 4. Over \$8,500 was raised to help fight hunger locally, nationally, and globally. Participating church from PMT were Bellevue, Harpeth, Old Hickory, and St. Andrew's.

The Tullahoma Walk

The second annual CROP Walk in Tullahoma was held on Sunday, April 25. The walk raised \$7,800 and had about 300 walkers. The corporate sponsors included FPC Tullahoma and Normandy Presbyterian Church. The local Good Samaritan Association and "5 Loaves 4 Kids" (a weekend food program for school children) are the local recipient agencies.

Thank you to everyone who participated – both walkers and contributors!



Martha O'Bryan Center to Start Community Market

A gift of \$5,300 from Fifth Third Bank will help the Martha O'Bryan Center improve food access for Cayce Place and the surrounding neighborhoods in East Nashville. Funding will be used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, and non-food items that will be sold below market prices.

The neighborhood Martha O'Bryan serves is considered one of Nashville's food deserts, with no grocery stores in easy walking distance. As a result, healthy food is hard to get. This new market will provide a larger selection of food with higher nutritional value and give families additional choices.

Improved food access has been started this summer with bi-weekly bus service to the nearest Kroger and Aldi on Gallatin Road. This initiative is sponsored and supported by a group of Martha O'Bryan Center volunteers, the Young Professionals Committee.



Discover all the great flavors that are grown in our own "backyard." To find a local farm stand, farmer's market, CSA, or pick your own location, go to www.localtable.net/farm_guide

Additional Souper Bowl Participant

Liberty Hill Presbyterian Church