SW HOPE
Feed the Hungry

February 11–April 14, 2018

SW HOPE 2018:
Help Portland Families Put Food on the Table

In Oregon, one out of every seven people struggles with hunger, and one out of every four children is food insecure. The rate of food insecurity (defined as being without access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food) in Oregon is 14.6%, a number that has been growing steadily over the past few years and is now at an all-time high. However, programs like Neighborhood House's Emergency Food Box help support local families with a mission of making sure that every family is able to put food on the table.

The SW HOPE: Feed the Hungry drive has a goal of raising 200,000 pounds of food, or the $50,000 cash equivalent, through your generous donations, and we're off to a great start! After some awesome events, including the Interfaith Kickoff and Salvador Molly's Dine Out to Donate, we're well on track to reaching our goals. But we can't do it without your help! More than 40 community and faith partners have organized fun, family-friendly events that allow donors to support SW HOPE while enjoying the best food and fun Portland has to offer. See the calendar below or the blue sidebar for more information on these fantastic events, and we hope to see you there!

Calendar of SW HOPE 2018 Events

Event	When	Location	Benefit to SW HOPE
SW HOPE Craft Fair	Saturday, March 10, 9:00am–3:00pm	St. Andrew's Church 3228 SW Sunset Blvd, Portland, OR 97239	All vendor fees support SW HOPE
McMenamins Hillsdale Friends and Family Night	Tuesday, March 13, 5:00pm–12:00am	1505 SW Sunset Blvd, Portland, OR 97201	50% of all orders, including to-go orders, benefit SW HOPE
Empty Bowls Soup Dinner	Friday, April 6, 5:00–7:00pm	Multnomah Arts Center 7688 SW Capitol Hwy	100% of the proceeds from soup and bowl sales go to SW HOPE
SW HOPE 5K at Gabriel Park	Saturday, April 14, Registration begins @ 8:30am	SW Community Center at Gabriel Park 5833 SW 45th Ave	100% of proceeds benefit SW HOPE

For a complete list of community partners and participating congregations, visit www.SWHOPE.org

FÊTE LOCALE *Ready, Set, Grow!*

Eat, drink, and be generous with Neighborhood House at our ninth annual Fete Locale dinner and auction!

Saturday, May 5th, 5:30 pm @ Multnomah Athletic Club

We can't wait for the ninth annual Fete Locale; there couldn't be a better way to have fun while giving back. Fill a table of 10 with your friends and neighbors for $1,250, with all food and drink included! Individual tickets are $125. You can also get involved by donating a fabulous experience or item to our live or silent auctions. Garden-party attire is encouraged, including hats! Don't miss your chance to be a part of Neighborhood House's biggest event of the year.

To purchase tickets by credit card, pay online on our ticket site, or call **503-246-1663**. To pay by check, make your check out to "Neighborhood House" with "Fete Tickets" in the memo line and mail it to 7780 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland, OR 97219. **The last day to purchase tickets is Friday, April 27th.**

We hope to see you there!

Thank You to Everyone Who Attended This Month's Progressive Dinner!

Our Progressive Dinner on February 12th was a wonderful celebration of Neighborhood House's programs and community. Elephants Delicatessen provided a delicious (discounted!) dinner to keep everyone well-fed as they visited three of our program sites. Thank you to everyone who came out to learn more about our vital work, and a special thank you to our fantastic board member attendees—Joshua Kadish, Emily Leach, Kristin Watkins, Tom Kramer, and Amy Wester—for their support!

Headstart Program Helps Local Mother Receive Early Childhood Education for Her Three Children

Almost 10 years ago, Kaouther Elatch was referred to Neighborhood House's Headstart Program, not knowing it would change her children's lives. As a teenager, Kaouther immigrated to the United States from Morocco, meeting her now husband, who had immigrated from Yemen. She soon had three children, and though they were lucky enough to receive public housing and did not need food assistance, the family was unable to afford preschool. The Headstart Program, which provides early education to children as well as information on parenting techniques for parents, offered Kaouther and her children the opportunity to receive quality early education.

Kaouther believes that having her children attend Headstart helped them build strong social and emotional skills through allowing them to interact with children their age and spend time in a school-like setting. The family has been able to go on field trips to OMSI, farms, and children's museums, all of which were incredibly valuable experiences for Kaouther and her children. "What makes this program unique, in my opinion, are the multicultural and diverse families," Kaouther explains. "This gives us a chance to know one another, share childhood stories, and sing the children songs in their native languages. To me, this brings people closer and removes all the different barriers. We can come from different backgrounds, but at the end of the day, we are all humans, and we all wish for a better world for our children."

Link2Feed Is the New Database That Helps the Food Box Program Better Serve the Community

We are so excited to be using Link2Feed, the new database that will help the Food Box Program track who, and how many, it's serving. Currently, the Food Box Program is in the process of entering transactions in the old database, then entering extant and new clients into the new database as registrations are submitted. Food Box Coordinator Elizabeth LaPlante said of the new system, "In March, we will have different days with interpreters from the Oregon Food Bank and extra bodies to register people live as they come in. So April will be our first month fully in the new system."

According to LaPlante, the first page of the registration packet has been very useful for clients, as it has the potential to give the program more in-depth knowledge of client needs at the local Food Box Program as well as those across the region. The hope is that this new database will allow the Food Box Program to have a better sense of who they're serving, therefore allowing the program to serve according to need and demographic. LaPlante is very hopeful that this new database will make a huge, positive impact for food insecure people in the area.