

CFC CONNECTIONS

Community Food Connection Newsletter

In this issue

- Recent Activity & News
- Store Hours
- Thank You Volunteers
- Thank You Donors
- Upcoming Events
- Meet CFC Board members

Welcome to this issue of CFC Connections, your electronic newsletter about Community Food Connection of Blount County. Please contact any of our Board of Directors if you have questions or ideas for articles in future editions.



Store Coordinator Ingrid Haun, Board member Heather Reed, and volunteers Betty, Don, and Erna with the Second Harvest Innovation Award.

Recent Activity & News

More Than Food is now Path of Hope

We currently have 8 families participating in the Path of Hope program. If you know of a family that can benefit from this program, please have them contact Second Harvest at 865-521-0000, visit secondharvestetn.org or contact Kevin Kilmer at CFCPathofHope@cfcbloount.com to set up an appointment.

The Daily Times recently published a great story about CFC serving our community for over 30 years.

https://www.thedailytimes.com/community/united-in-service-community-food-connection-surpasses-30-years-thanks-to-community-support/article_69ff0baa-2e71-11ef-b238-cb1727621ccb.html

Second Harvest named CFC its 2024 Innovation Award winner for our Path of Hope program.



Despite rainy weather, 7,920 pounds of food and \$3,645

were collected during the April Food Drive at the Maryville Food City. A big Thank You to the 50 volunteers who worked to make it a success.



Grant Writing



Laura Harrill began as a CFC volunteer with St Andrews Church and since 2008, has been writing grant requests for CFC. She researches potential grants on the internet, visits with store or agency employees to learn about grant opportunities and identifies grants whose missions mesh with ours. She also works closely with United Way for federal grants. Some grants are one-time, but she says "once we get money from an organization, it's often easier to get other grants" and CFC has received a grant from Food Lion Charitable Foundation for 14 years. She will be retiring in January and has been working closely with Board member Gaines Lee who will continue writing grants. While grant writing can be tedious at times, she said it "is easy to write grants for an organization that is so passionate in their mission." THANK YOU Laura for all you've done for CFC!!



CFC received a \$25,000 grant from ARONIC that was used to buy 4 glass-fronted, double-door commercial freezers, additional shopping carts and food for our clients. THANK YOU ARCONIC!!

Store Hours

Monday 10 AM -12 PM

Wednesday 10 AM - 2 PM

Thursday 5 PM - 7 PM

Saturday 10 AM -12 PM

3rd Saturday 2 PM - 4 PM

Thank You Volunteers

We are truly blessed to have many groups and individuals who volunteer their time and energy to support our ministry. There are still days and times when we can use more volunteers, especially driver to pickup rescue food. Interested individuals can register to volunteer on our website <http://cfcblount.com>



Sheri and Russell Liles have been organic farming for over 25 years. During COVID, Farmers Markets closed and they could no longer sell their organic grown vegetables. Talking with folks at church, they decided to utilize their 15-20 beds to raise food to donate to the community. 30 Master gardeners working in 4-6 person teams from March – November prep and plant the beds, maintain, water and harvest the crops throughout the season. In 2023, 2,130 pounds of broccoli, cauliflower, peppers, cabbage, asparagus, radishes, carrots, green onions, kale, green beans, zucchini, potatoes, and garlic were donated to CFC and New Providence.



Over 400 pounds of fresh vegetables have been donated this year. Thank you Russell, Sherri and all the Master Gardeners for this wonderful ministry!

Check out our new and improved website at <http://cfcblount.com>.

Some new features include:

News & update section

Meet the board members

Downloadable forms

Easier ways to donate, and even FAQs!

Stay Connected

Community Food Connection of Blount County

137 N Calderwood Street, Alcoa, TN (New Midland Plaza)

Mailing address: P.O.Box 786, Alcoa, TN 37701

Phone: (865) 977-4400

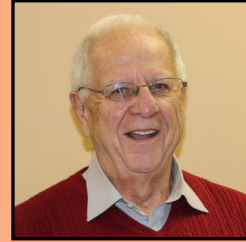
Email: info@cfcblount.com

Webpage: <http://cfcblount.com>

Facebook: Community Food Connection of Blount County

Volunteer Coordinator email: cfc.volunteer.coord@cfcblount.com

In Remembrance



Long time volunteer Merl Krull died on June 22. He was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and was a dedicated CFC volunteer for over 20 years.



When fresh fruit, vegetables and bread are no longer useable, they are donated to farmers, like Gary Estes & Daisy, who feed them to their livestock.

Thank You Donors

We could not continue serving Blount County without the support of individuals, churches and businesses. Your generous donations are used to buy food and pay other necessary expenses.

Please consider making a charitable donation to CFC!

Upcoming Events

Our next food drives are **August 22-24**, at the new Food City on Tesla Boulevard, and **September 26-28** at the Maryville Kroger

We will need volunteers at the store to welcome shoppers and distribute grocery shopping lists, drivers to bring food to CFC, and others to sort and shelve the food.

More information about future food drives and how to sign-up will be emailed 2-3 weeks before the drive. Information will also be on our Facebook page and website.

Warren Bielenberg, Editor