



Food Bus, Inc.

P.O. Box 7726 Arlington VA, 22207

www.foodbus.org

www.facebook.com/foodbus

Twitter: [@foodbus](https://twitter.com/foodbus)

*Recovering food, filling pantries, and easing hunger
in our communities.*

What is Food Bus?

- It's not an actual Bus. It's an idea. We are busing unused food to pantries



Just one week's worth of food at a local elementary school

Our work, Our Mission

- Recover unused food from elementary schools, distribute it to pantries, strengthen communities, and teach children how they can make a difference by reducing food waste and feeding the hungry.
- Food Bus works directly with school systems to implement and maintain programs that recover and distribute unused leftover food.



Why is this work important?



- According to the USDA, 1 out of 7 Americans (14%) lived in a food insecure household in 2013. At an average school, up to 60% of lunches are discarded, and 36 million tons of food was thrown away nationwide in 2011. That's enough food to fill The Rose Bowl every day (J. Bloom).
- Fruits and vegetables make up 76% of food waste; these are the kinds of food many food banks need most. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/key-statistics-graphics.aspx>

How Does Food Bus Work?



Food is saved at schools...



Volunteers deliver food
to food pantries...



for distribution to hungry families

What kind of food is acceptable?



- Milk in unopened cartons
- Prepackaged sauces (e.g., applesauce, pasta sauce)
- Fruits and vegetables, including prepackaged apple slices
- Prepackaged meats (e.g., Lunchables)

Storing, Collecting and Delivering Food

- Food Bus provides an energy-efficient refrigerator free of charge to any school that needs one. The refrigerator must be located away from general food service activities and only contain food designated for distribution.



- Students usually collect the food at the end of their lunch period. Parents, students, teachers, and school staff deliver the food or the food pantry picks it up.



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Show Your KG Pride!

Please help to reduce food waste by donating your **unopened** food to our local food pantry, SHARE of McLean.

Items that can be donated include:

Milk, cheese, yogurt, hummus, fruit juice, prepackaged apple sauce and marinara sauce (without meat), bananas, oranges, prepackaged apple slices, carrots and celery; chips, popcorn, graham crackers and cereal.

Do NOT donate: Hot or cold meat sandwiches, burritos, whole apples, chicken tenders, spaghetti with meat sauce, macaroni and cheese.

Teaching students the process and linking them to pantries



Who Receives the Food?



- The school makes that decision. Current options are:
 - Donate to local food pantries.
 - Use to supplement in-house Power Pack Program.
 - This program provides backpacks filled with nutritious foods, including fresh fruits and vegetables, to children in the free and reduced-fee lunch program.
 - Donate directly to families in the school's population that are in need.
 - Partner with a sister school in need and donate the unused food to their families.
 - Donate to homeless shelter or other social service organization that feeds hungry people.

Delivering Unused Elementary School Food to a Local Pantry, In Arizona



How does this help?

- Providing unused, leftover food to food banks:
 - Helps feed hungry people
 - Reduces dumping fees for school districts
 - Provides an opportunity to teach children about the importance of reducing solid waste, protecting our environment, and helping those in need.
- Reducing food waste also reduces greenhouse gas emissions; every pound of food *not* delivered to a landfill is a pound of carbon *not* emitted into the atmosphere.



Elementary Schools in CA, AZ, IL, VA, NC, WA , all over the USA participating

1.7' x 3' Banners

CALLING ALL EAGLES!

Food Pantry Donations

Please help to reduce food waste by donating your unopened to a local food pantry, so we can help feed the hungry in our community.

Items that **CAN** be donated include: Milk, cheese, yogurt, hummus, fruit juice, prepackaged apple sauce and marinara sauce , bananas, oranges, prepackaged apple slices, carrots and celery; chips, popcorn, graham crackers and cereal.

Do NOT donate: Any food items that you've opened or nibbled at!

Thank you!

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SOAR CHARTER ACADEMY

Name	Details
SOARBanner+Copy	Product: 1.7' x 3' Banners Created: 11/6/2014 Identification #: BZDLG-23A79-7Q6

Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-104publ210/pdf/PLAW-104publ210.pdf>

- **Is transferring food from schools to food banks legal?**

Yes! The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, passed in 1996, protects organizations and individuals who donate unused food to the hungry. Many schools still have legal concerns; Food Bus works with them to overcome this barrier.

Why Does Food Bus Work?

- Providing supplies: Refrigerators, baskets, carts for schools to store perishables collected.
- Public education: Teach schools, administrators, volunteers and parents about the amount of food wasted in their communities.
- Involving kids: our largest impact is with children.



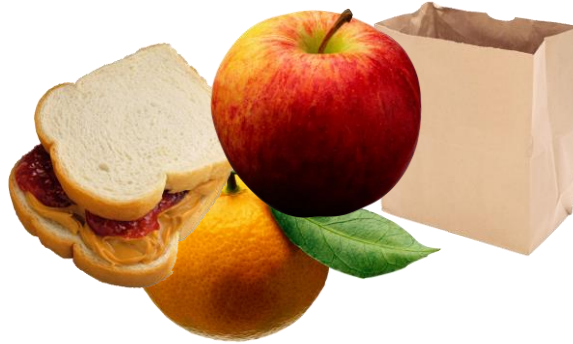
Strengthening Communities

A policeman, a principal, a PTA/PTO president and a food pantry volunteer



Connecting Students, Communities, Pantries and the Hungry

Community



How Are Schools Involved?

We are working across the country with many schools. Students are holding fundraisers, green teams are organizing deliveries, parents are transporting the food and teachers are reminding students about donating instead of wasting food.



Student Engagement/Community Service



Donations equating 100 pounds or more.

AFAC If you do not wish to receive a letter, please check here

FOOD DONATION RECEIPT

DATE 4/15/15

Donor or Organization Name Kathleen Golden

Organization Contact _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (____) _____

Email _____

FOOD DONATION	TOTAL WEIGHT (IN LBS)
<u>35 POUNDS</u>	<u>35 POUNDS</u>

PLOT AGAINST HUNGER? YES NO

Based on a recent study by Feeding America, Inc., the average value of donated food is calculated at \$1.70 per pound (this value has increased from \$1.60 per pound starting July 1, 2014). In accordance with IRS rules, no gifts or services were given in exchange for this food donation.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

Charles Meng
Charles Meng, Executive Director

ARLINGTON FOOD ASSISTANCE CENTER
2708 S. NELSON ST., ARLINGTON, VA 22206 • 703 845 8486 • WWW.AFAC.ORG

How is EPA involved?

- EPA Food Recovery Challenge
- <http://www2.epa.gov/sustainable-management-food/food-recovery-challenge-frc>
- **And, From An EPA, Region 10 Post:**
- The Puesta del Sol School in the [Bellevue School District, Washington](#) partnered with EPA to reduce food waste. Students led by the 4th and 5th grade Green Team collect uneaten lunch food and dairy for donation to the local food bank, Hopelink. In eight weeks they have collected 1,125 pounds of food, which could feed feed 225 people for one day!
- By reducing food waste that goes into landfills, these students are helping solve [#climatechange](#). About 13 percent of greenhouse gases in the United States are associated with growing, manufacturing, transporting, and disposing of food. By reducing food waste, these students reduce their carbon footprint.
- <https://www.facebook.com/eparegion10/posts/10153692993416758>

Puesta Del Sol, Bellevue , WA
in Collaboration with EPA/Region 10



Puesta del Sol... ¡Vamos a brillar aún más!

Ayúdanos a reducir el desperdicio de
comida y alimentar a los hambrientos.



Ejemplos de artículos que se pueden donar:

Leche, queso, yogur, hummus, jugo, salsa de manzana
o tomate, rebanadas de manzana, zanahorias, o apio
empaquetado, granola, frutas enteras, papitas, palomitas
de maíz, galletas y cereal.

No Se Puede Donar:

Comida cocinada, carne, comida que usted no terminó
de comer.

¡Alimenta a más personas y no al cubo de basura!

FOOD BUS, Inc.

A nonprofit organization dedicated to recovering food, filling pantries, and easing hunger in our communities.



The Food Bus Toolkit

Initial Process for Start Up:

1. Consultation with school leadership to assess viability of food recovery program.
2. Educational session(s) with school leadership and students related to food recovery and initiation of program.
3. Assessment of cafeteria and potential school needs for funding (for example, purchase of refrigerator, cart, scale, boxes for weighing food and delivering, table for donation site, etc).

Design of Food Recovery Plan:

1. Work with community outreach coordinator (or other assigned personnel) to create architecture of program in the school cafeteria.
2. Strategize with school physical placement of food donation collection site, refrigerator, scale, bags and other supplies.
3. Implement food recovery:
 - * as needed meetings with staff to assess progress and address issues.
 - *problem solve areas of concern.
 - *assist with coordination of volunteers for distribution of food donations.
4. Purchase materials for school as needed to recover/store/distribute the food.

Liaison with Local Pantry

1. School will choose local pantry to form relationship with. Suggestions can be provided by Food Bus if the school would like.
2. Coordinate pick up and delivery schedule.
3. Address and solve issues if they arise between school and pantry.

Maintenance

1. Stay involved as consulting organization as program develops.
2. Provide funding as needed.
3. Reassess and reengineer program as needed.
4. Hold yearly meeting with volunteers across participating schools to share insight, suggestions, and problem-solving.

Kent Gardens Elementary School: Food Recovery/Donation Log

Food Pantry Chair: Rachel Simon (Rachel@simon.net)

2014-2015 School Year

Sept	5th	12th	19th	26th	
October	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
November	7th	14th	21st	26th	
December	5th	12th	19th		
January	9th	16th	23rd	28th	
February	6th	13th	20th	27th	
March	6th	13th	20th	27th	
April	10th	16th	24th		
May	1st	8th	15th	23rd	29th
June	5th	12th	29th		

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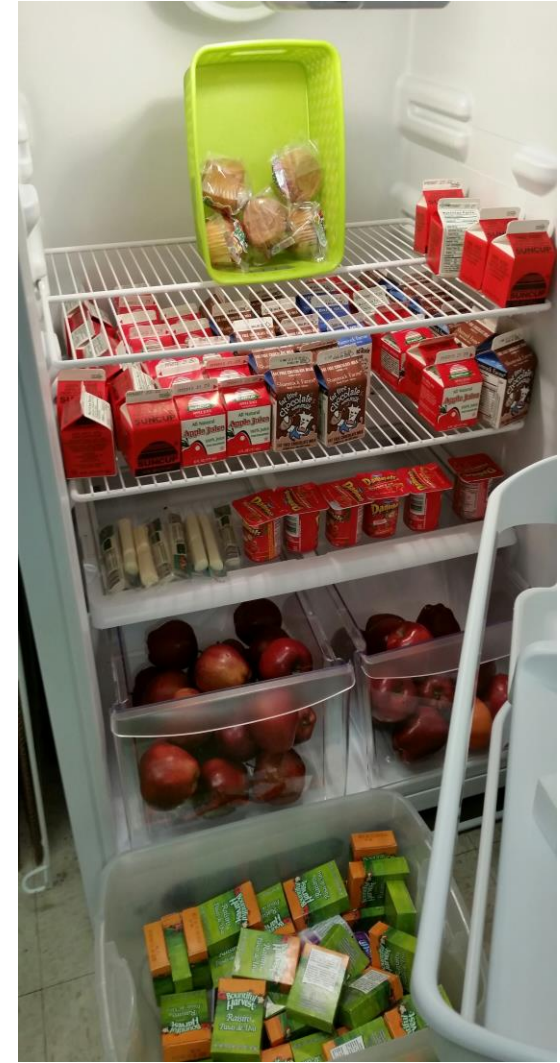
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Issues with Recovering Food in Elementary Schools

- Hyper-local decision making regarding collecting and donating the food.
- Fear about liability and illness.
- Lack of knowledge of Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, 1996.
- Funding and volunteer issues relating to collecting and distributing the recovered food.



Solutions:



- Food Bus collaborating to establish a national working group on school food recovery.
 - Develop a web based educational unit to answer questions about food recovery in schools.
 - Craft a national policy for county level food and nutrition directors to utilize in order to approve food recovery programs in public schools.
 - Accelerate the food recovery movement in the USA by using social media for diffusion of information.

Solutions, cont.

- Connect with leaders across the country who are interested in moving this issue forward so a critical mass of interested people is formed.
- Consult with schools on a state by state basis in order to establish localized, community led efforts that can spread.
- Partner with the USDA and the EPA by sharing information, ideas and results with government leaders who can influence change and understand the long history on this issue.

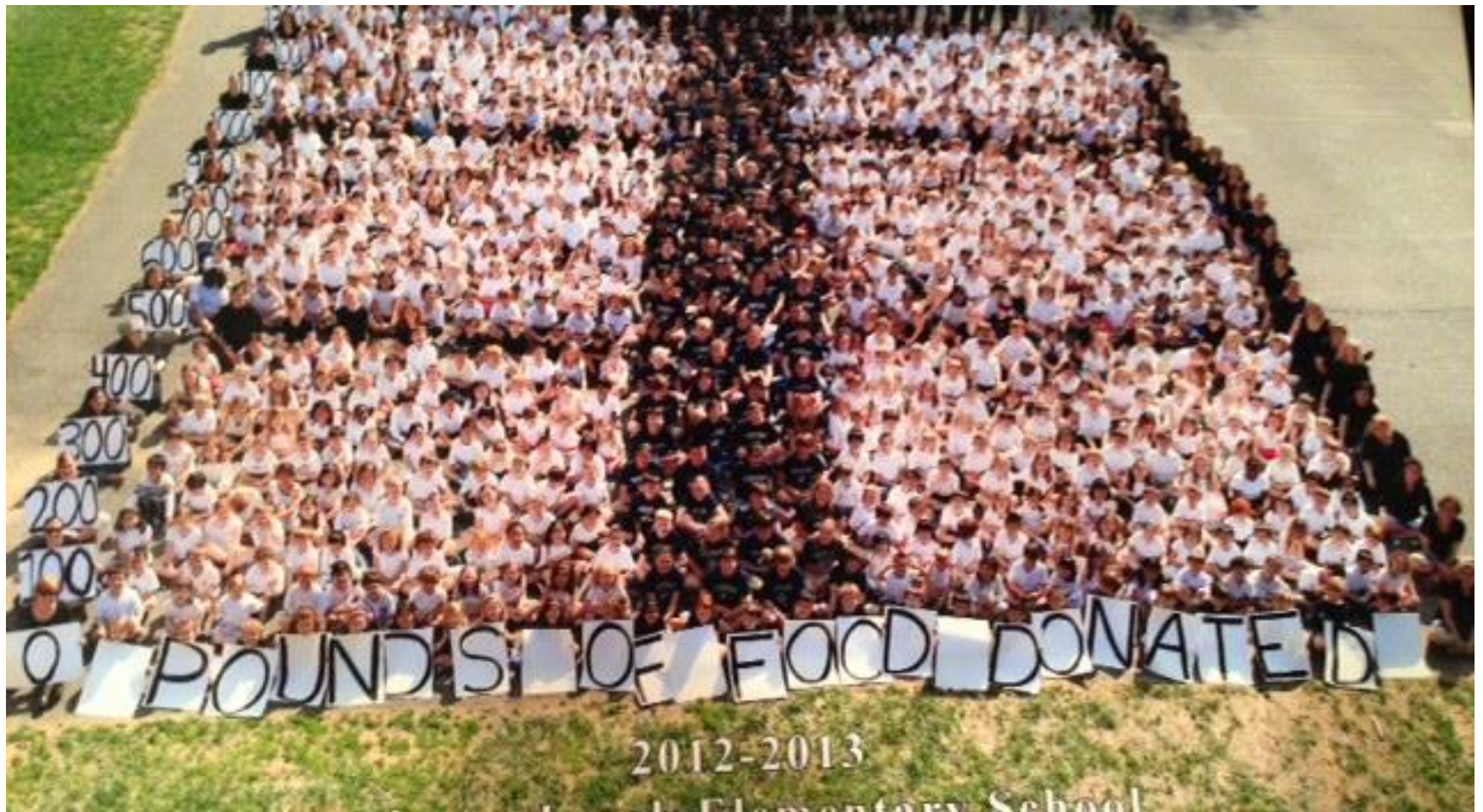


Generational Shift

- Perhaps the most important work of Food Bus is our work with children in elementary schools.
 - We are showing them how they can make a difference in this world, no matter their age.
 - They are learning to make a choice about what to do with their unused food, rather than just throw it out.
 - We are building awareness in the next generation about the hungry around them, and how to be part of a solution.
 - We are integrating schools, parents, children and pantries into caring communities, breaking down barriers that leave our less fortunate neighbors unnoticed and struggling.



School wide photo demonstrating pounds of food donated over the course of one academic year



- **Is there curriculum schools can use to teach students about food waste?**

Food Bus is working on a web based curriculum that can be used as a national guide to food recovery and donation in elementary schools across the country.

- **Where can I learn more?**

- Food Bus Website:

- <http://foodbus.org/>

- Food Bus Facebook page:

- <https://www.facebook.com/FoodBus>

- [Twitter: @foodbus](https://twitter.com/foodbus)





the USDA revealed that one in six Americans is living in a food insecure household, and one in five of those is a child. Yet a whopping 30-40 percent of our food is wasted.

McLean, VA mom Kathleen Weil decided to do something about it in her community. She started a charity, Food Bus, which helps elementary schools eliminate wasted food and donate the food to the needy. Food Bus goes into a school, works with the PTA, the principal and other staff, along with parent volunteers and the kids themselves, to help end hunger. They provide a dedicated refrigerator and supplies for storing the food during the school week and then take it to various food pantries at the end of the week.

Weil says that 98 percent



The first program began

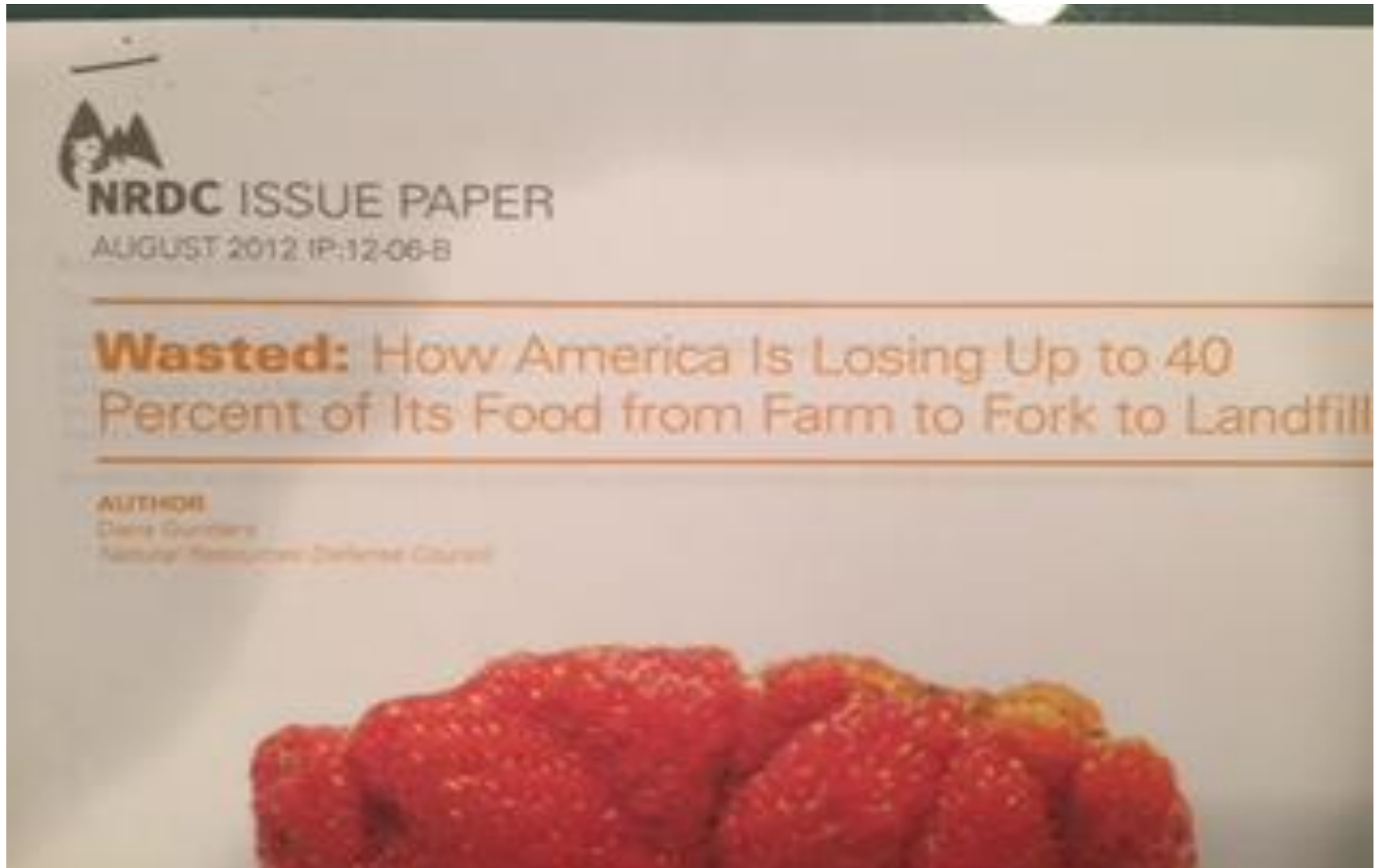
"We are now at a tipping

elementary school, and parent volunteers leave, there are other parents who have been learning the system.

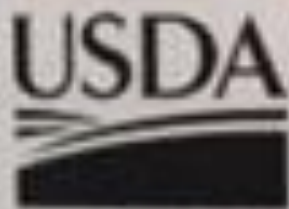
Weil has a background as a nursing instructor and researcher at National Institutes of Health. She is the mother of three daughters, ranging from 7 to 10 years of age, who with her husband have been integral with starting this charity. "My kids love it. They have put Food Bus magnets up on school refrigerators. All have gone to food pantries with me, have seen what they do and how they serve people."

The reaction from the schools, and especially the children, is overwhelming. Chesterbrook had the 700 plus kids in the school wear color-coded shirts and make a living bar graph of the food donated for their yearly school wide event. Weil explains that

Get Informed/Background Research

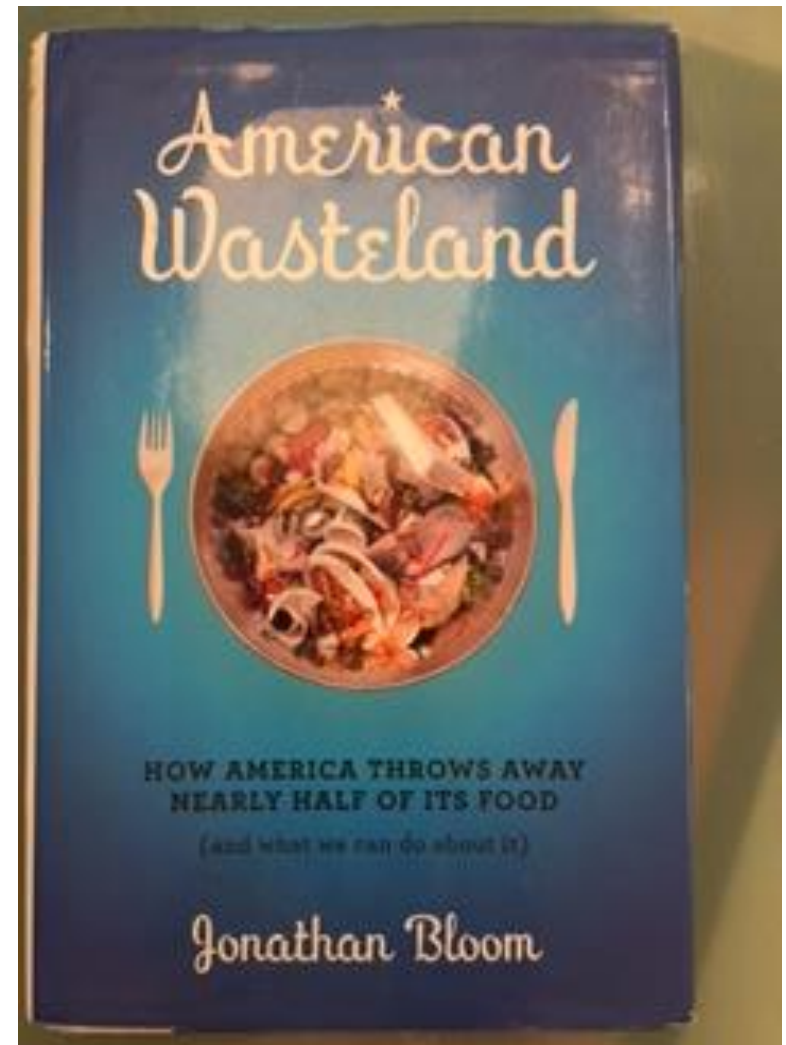
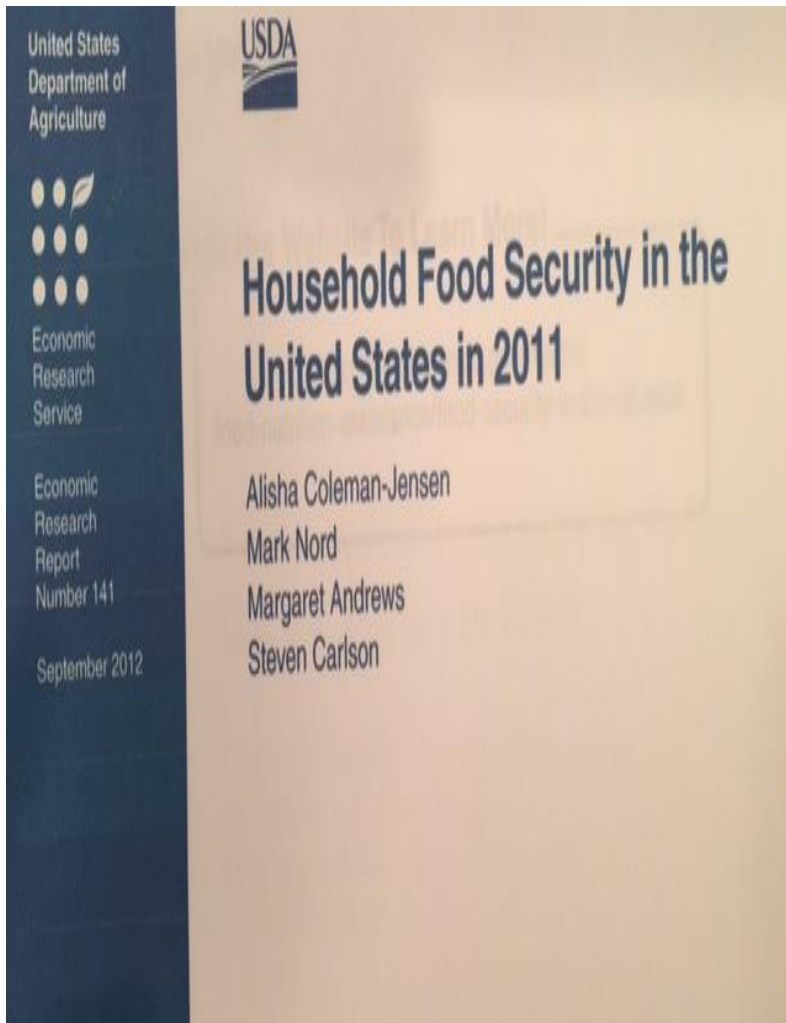


Waste Not, Want Not **EPA**/USDA Paper



**Feeding the Hungry and
Reducing Solid Waste
Through Food Recovery**

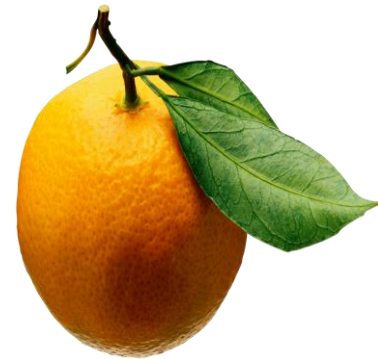
What to Read



Interested in Food Recovery in Your School?



- Please contact Food Bus, Inc. via our website:
- www.foodbus.org
- Like us: www.facebook.com/foodbus to hear about inspirational stories of people motivated to create change.
- Follow us on Twitter to check in about our latest work (@foodbus)
- Pay attention to what is being thrown out in your child's cafeteria.



Thank you!

Kathleen Dietrich Weil, PhD
Melani Spiegel & Ariel Ardura

