



Hungry Hearts  
Foundation

2016  
ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends,

Hungry Hearts Foundation was officially founded almost two years ago in early 2015. The year 2016 was our first full year of operations and we are happy to share the progress we made through multiple exciting accomplishments and happenings.

During 2016, we collected over \$32,000 in cash donations from the community. We entered 2016 with \$9,495 in our operating account with no reserves, and we finished the year with \$42,180, which now also includes a full year's worth of operating expense reserves that will help us weather possible challenges in the future. This represents a financial position improvement of **344%** year-over-year! With these generous donations we purchased over \$11,800 in food and necessities for children in the Lake Stevens School District.

This financial success is largely due to the tremendous public relations and community outreach effort and accomplishments we had by introducing ourselves and our story through a brand-new website, branding, an introductory video, social media features, a successful fundraising event, and positive articles about our organization in local newspapers. The community response has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive.

Our first annual fundraising event spanned three months last summer and involved two stuffed Wells Fargo horses traveling around the region, from business to business, collecting money from donations. It was featured in two local newspapers and netted us nearly \$3,000!



We made strong connections with our neighbors and local businesses, and entered into a friendly partnership with the Lake Stevens Community Food Bank, in an effort to streamline our common efforts to alleviate hunger in our community from multiple fronts.

Furthermore, we successfully educated school counselors in the entire Lake Stevens School District on how to identify child hunger among the children they work with on a daily basis, and what to do when they see it.

*"During times that we have only enough food for basic breakfast and dinner the Hungry Hearts program has blessed my children to not feel hungry and to have the snacks and lunches that they need and deserve. I'm very thankful for this program."*  
- Parent

Perhaps our proudest 2016 moment was to receive our community's nomination for KING5's "Best of Western Washington Award" for best local charity. While we did not win, we were honored to be competing in the same category with local inspiring giants such as the winner, Seattle Children's Hospital.

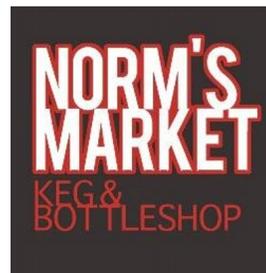
Looking toward 2017, we anticipate our operating budget spending to increase significantly, as we are planning to increase the amount and quality of food we distribute to children in our program. In general, for all the children in our program, we hope to provide year-round healthier, fresher food options, to the extent our budget allows. Additionally, we plan to expand our food storage capabilities as we acquire and serve more food.

We have tremendous positive momentum going into the new year and can't wait to see what exciting stories it holds for us. I would like to thank our amazing Board of Directors whose experience and passion is visible and contagious, our volunteers who dedicate hundreds of hours toward helping with packing, preparing, delivering, and distribution of the boxes every week, and our loyal supporters, without whose regular contributions none of this would be possible. Thank you all!

Sincerely,

Mirza Avdic  
CEO and Chair

We would like to thank and recognize the following major donors who helped make 2016 a great success:



**A special thanks to the following donors:**

Pioneer Square 76 Station, Lake Stevens

Joe's Glass Co, Monroe

Lund Orthodontics

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