



of SANTA CLARA and  
SAN MATEO COUNTIES

FALL 2017

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT



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## HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF



In response to the great need after Hurricane Harvey, Second Harvest swiftly transferred 10 pallets of oatmeal and applesauce to Texas. In coordination with Feeding America and two other local food banks, the strength of our network allowed us to react as needed - to fight hunger in whatever form.

We are prepared to deal with emergency outreach locally should disaster ever strike. Your continued support - donations and volunteering - make this immediate action possible.

**Left photo:** Director of Food Sourcing and Inventory Barbara Gahlen with food pallets bound for Texas.

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AMERICA**

# TEENS LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER

High School can be a hectic and busy time, with homework, extracurricular activities, and preparing for college. In addition to tackling all of these demands, many teenagers are looking to make a difference in their community and Second Harvest Food Bank is thrilled to have their support. Meet two teen groups who have gone above and beyond in the fight against hunger in Silicon Valley!

## San Mateo High School

The students at San Mateo High School run a large and competitive food drive each holiday season. High school seniors Vida Wadhams and Marina Fess started planning for this year's drive over the summer.

Preparation has included setting the theme for the drive, creating the marketing materials, and contacting local stores where students will have shifts to ask for donations.

This year's theme: **Can Wars!**

There are a lot of moving parts and logistics to make a food drive successful, but according to Vida, **"I think that the most important thing to have going through the process is just an insane amount of heart."**



## RAGA^N

RAGA^N started when five friends, who had a passion for Indian classical music, decided they wanted to volunteer in a meaningful way. These young musicians wanted to make an impact in their community and have now hosted three fundraisers to benefit Second Harvest, each with a focus on Indian classical music or dance. For the group, making a local impact was important. **"I liked the idea that this was local - you can see the change you are making and it is right in front of you,"** said Mansi Saxena.

Besides learning the ins and outs of hosting an event, the members of RAGA^N have realized the impact they can make. Akshay Prabhakaran, a founding member of RAGA^N, shared, "We've really only made a small dent into what hunger really is, but hopefully in the future, because of these small steps we have taken, we can take even bigger steps."

To run your own Food & Fund Drive, please visit [shfb.org/ffd](http://shfb.org/ffd).

**Top photo:** Marina and Vida pose wearing their 2017 fundraiser shirts.

**Bottom photo:** Raga^N members Rachana, Geeta, Mansi and Akshay visit the Food Bank.





# CRUISIN' FOR CHARITY

On September 10, the Goombahs Car Club hosted their **10th Annual Cruise for a Cause** in Downtown Willow Glen to benefit Second Harvest. The event featured over 600 cars, San Jose Sharks mascot SJ Sharkey, and KC Mathieu of KC's Paint Shop and formerly of Discovery Channel's *Fast N' Loud*.

KC shared, "Supporting Cruise for a Cause is a no brainer. It's a one-day show, 600+ cars, helping local small businesses, and collecting a ton of donations for a great cause." He continues:



**“We all can do so much to help end hunger through small actions—it’s important to me, to not only support Second Harvest Food Bank, but expose my kids to the positive experience of working together to address the needs of others.”**

The first Cruise for a Cause was held near the height of the Great Recession. “10 years ago, the economy was down, and Second Harvest Food Bank put an ad out saying they were low on canned foods and funds,” recalls Jeff Cimoli, President of the Goombahs Car Club. Since the club was a year old at the time, they wanted

to host a car show. **“We figured that Second Harvest needed some help, so why not do a combination - help Second Harvest and do our car show, too.”**

The event has grown significantly from its humble beginnings, going from one parking lot and 50 cars, to stretching across Downtown Willow Glen with hundreds of cars filling the neighborhood's many parking lots. Cruise for a Cause is now the largest free car show in Northern California.

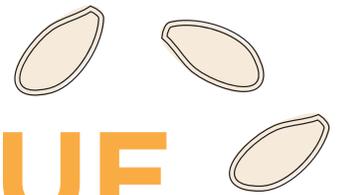
“When I came into this club and found out what it does and what the cause was, it does something to pump you up,” shared Howard Owen, a member of the Goombahs. “We are running around and seeing people drop in cans of food in the barrel and watching money change hand in the booths for donations and all that type of stuff and we can say ‘Yeah, we’re doing something.’”

During the Food Bank's 2017 Make Hunger History awards event, the Goombahs received the Community Champion Award as one of the top community fundraiser groups. Since 2008 **the Goombahs have provided the equivalent of over 130,000 meals to our community.**

If you would like to host an event benefiting Second Harvest contact Bernadette White at [bwhite@shfb.org](mailto:bwhite@shfb.org).

**Top photo:** Goombahs Car Club and KC Mathieu pose at the 10th Annual Cruise for a Cause.

# CATCHING UP WITH PATRICK MANIGQUE



You helped Patrick, Joy, and their daughter, Angelica, when they needed it most – Joy, a special education teacher, was diagnosed with breast cancer while Patrick was between jobs. Now, the family is back on their feet.

**“Second Harvest Food Bank helped us weather the most difficult time of our lives.** Today, my family is doing very well. I am now part of the Food Connection Team of Second Harvest helping families like mine get through difficult times in their lives. My wife’s cancer is in remission and she is still enjoying teaching kindergarten. My daughter is in 6th grade and still plays the piano and has since started violin and clarinet lessons and wants to learn the guitar. **Thank you Second Harvest and to all the donors for being part of my family’s life journey.”**



4-Stars for 11 Years!



**Second Harvest Food Bank has been awarded Charity Navigator’s 4-star rating for the 11th consecutive year!** This coveted rating is bestowed for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Attaining the highest possible rating indicates that Second Harvest adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a highly efficient way. Only 1% of the charities evaluated have received at least 11 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that **we outperform most other charities in America!**



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