

2024 FOOD BANK UPDATE

How can you infuse a spirit of hospitality into this day? This was the challenge given to our groups, volunteers, and staff each Wednesday. Reminding all of us that loving attention and presence to each person is the ultimate priority.

This summer, **Agape Food Bank was able to provide dignified, joy-filled food access to an average of 570 households weekly** for 10 weeks (total of 5,708 HH & 21,615 people). Over the years, Agape has become not just a food access point, but a community resource hub. Although food is the service being offered, our **biggest goal is that those present feel welcome, seen, and loved**. And the unique aspects highlighted below have made the space more of a *mercado*, or farmers market, than a food bank. Creating a culture rooted in **caring for the whole person and the whole family**.

Providing the quality and quantity (33+ items weekly) of culturally-relevant food items, diapers, feminine hygiene, etc. requires us to purchase almost everything we offer. This is our commitment to **dignified food access** so that those who harvest the food in our community can achieve their own nutrition security. We are grateful to the many foundations, grants, and individual/group donors who join us in this work and make it possible. You play a critical role.

FREE TACO STAND



We foster a spirit of **hospitality** for our guests by providing a hot meal. This summer, we served around **1,150 tacos weekly!** Thank you, **Chispita de Sabor** for the delicious food!

KIDS PLAY AREA



Our play area is **essential** for our guests - to serve the need for **children to play** while their parents shop. This emphasizes that the **entire family is welcome** at our food bank!

CLOTHING & BOOKS



Thank you to all of our groups and guests for donating clothing and books! Our guests enjoyed shopping through a **variety of clothing and books** for their families!

LOCAL FOODS



We are grateful for a grant that helped us purchase from **local growers and makers**. Using our purchasing power to support local agriculture is an act of **social justice** and moving the agriculture system in a better direction.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



Offering info booth space to **19 other agencies** throughout the summer provides access to services and resources Agape cannot provide - serving the **whole person & whole family**. See the list of partners on the last page.

BACKPACKS



Every year, we offer **fully stocked backpacks** for students. We do this to help students better **access their education**. Thank you to all the communities who donated school supplies and helped provide **530 backpacks!**