

Food Synergy

Food: This is critical. The food must be "health code ready" and not be potentially dangerous, making the solution difficult. Problem: Homeless people are not getting food because of the current distribution process. People are trying to solve the problem, but increasing the money will not bring the solution. Homeless people can't just go to their fridge to eat. Besides, they can't just drive their car to the grocery store, they don't even have a place to store it. Example: A homeless person receives a food stamp and walks 15 miles in 115-degree heat and upon arrival the stamp does not work. Later, they face another walk to find dinner. When they get there, the food bank will not be serving dinner that night.

This is the real problem, not the welfare that people are trying to achieve. The kitchens serve a maximum of 125 people a night (not even every day). Let's say there are 5,000 homeless people a week in metro Phoenix. Doing the math, that means $(5000 * 3 * 7) = 105,000$ meals needed. Currently, a maximum of 2,500 meals per week. only 1.4% of the homeless can eat. Something must give, and awareness must happen.

In the above example, the meals "served" are smaller and the number of homeless at the same time is more than 5000. The saying "you don't know others are hungry when you are full" is so true. Spend a day packing enough 2,500 meals and you think; "That's more than enough to feed everyone in town." In fact, it doesn't even come close to solving the problem. The other side thinks it's no big deal that we try hard enough, just drive down the street and get food. The other side of the coin is dying of hunger and heat.

Being homeless is like running a marathon, in the heat, then going "home" to the dirt without food. A homeless person does this everyday. When these people are brought to the hospital, that cost this community billions.

Xenari.org understands that the effort and concern is there, and we thank you. It is not more effort doing the same thing that will solve the problem. Therefore, Xenari.org has a two-fold solution.

FOOD Distribution: All food resources (money and food) are combined and delivered to one of the four camps, knowing the right types of food. The camp kitchen manager works with purchasing to get the right food at the right price. As a result, we have more food than people to feed. This would reduce the cost to 0.15 cents per person per day, and people would be able to eat in the same place. A big task indeed; but it can be realized. Under this new system the current level of support would be adequate to meet the all the needs.

ONE off situations: We understands that nothing happens in a vacuum. After program starts, we will still have homeless. In this case, funds will be available to reimburse grocery stores for feeding people that have asked for help. Anyone who is hungry can go into any store and be fed. 211 is then called and help is on the way.