

UCAR Gives Back

Kathy Tedesco, 7/9/19

Last week members of the 2019 UCAR Leadership Academy volunteered at the Community Food Share of Boulder and Broomfield Counties. The event was organized by Kathy Tedesco (CPAESS) as a team building exercise for their Leadership Academy Cohort, COBO (Cohort of Bike Owners), and as a desire to give back to the community. After researching several worthy volunteer opportunities, COBO members chose to support Community Food Share, a Feeding America food bank, which provides 24,000 meals per day to the local community. Community Food Share not only provides food directly to families, seniors, students, and others, they also serve as a hub – delivering millions of pounds of food a year to local food pantries to reach people in their communities.

COBO volunteers included Davide Del Vento (CISL), Travis Kuennan (HAO), Ryan May (UNIDATA), Kathy Tedesco (CPAESS), Randy Shalhamer (HR), and Jamie Wolff (RAL) representing various programs across UCAR & NCAR. All who participated agreed that the experience was rewarding and plan to continue engagement with Community Food Share in the future.



UCAR Community Food Share volunteers (from left to right): Kathy Tedesco (CPAESS), Joana Blum (Denver Public Schools), Travis Kuennen (HAO), Randy Shalhamer (HR) and his daughters Salma and Isla, Davide Del Vento (CISL), Jamie Wolff (RAL) and her daughter Kaylynn. Not pictured: Ryan May (UNIDATA).

It was especially gratifying to share this opportunity with the next generation of community conscious individuals. Our experience was enriched by exposing them to the need in our local area and inspiring them on what is possible through volunteerism. Randy said “I’m so happy I got to teach my girls what giving back to the community looks like!” One of the younger participants will actually be returning to Community Food Share next week to volunteer again.

Community Foods Share

Community Food Share was created as a non-profit organization in 1981 with the mission to eliminate hunger in Boulder and Broomfield Counties through engagement, collaboration and leadership. By the end of 1981, after operating for only six months, Community Food Share had distributed 48,000 pounds of food. In January 2018, Community Food Share distributed 986,919 pounds, a record for monthly pounds distributed.



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There are many opportunities to volunteer and donate to Community Food Share including through food drives and Community Garden Donations. Community Garden Donations, in collaboration with [Earth's Table](#), collects any size donations of fruit, vegetables, and herbs from volunteer's home gardens.

For more information and ways to donate go to: www.communityfoodshare.org
or please contact

Kathy Tedesco

CPAESS

Phone: +1 303 497 8620

Email: kathy.tedesco@noaa.gov

or

Katy Voldrich

Volunteer Manager

Community Food Share

Email: kvoldrich@communityfoodshare.org

O: (303) 652-3663 ext 202 | Volunteer Cell: (303) 591-0516

www.communityfoodshare.org