



Legislation Text

File #: 17-224, **Version:** 1

AWARD PRESENTATION FOR THE CITY OF GLENDALE FROM ST. MARY'S FOOD BANK ALLIANCE

Staff Contact: Elaine Adamczyk, Interim Director, Community Services

Accepted By: Office of the Mayor

Presented By: Mr. David Martinez III, St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance

Purpose and Recommended Action

This is a request for City Council to accept recognition for Glendale's efforts to alleviate hunger in our community and receive a Hunger Heroes plate from St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance. The Hunger Heroes plate is presented by St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance to recognize and honor partners who have provided support and commitment to assist the food bank in their effort to eliminate hunger in 2016.

Background

St. Mary's Food Bank was founded in 1967 and has grown to be one of the largest food banks in the United States. The Food Bank has been a vital partner, though the various programs they offer to our community, since 1973. In 1990, the City partnered with the Westside Food Bank to open the first food bank in Glendale, and St. Mary's provided much of the food that was distributed out of that food bank. In 2004, St. Mary's merged with the Westside Food Bank, and for over 6 years, they continue to manage and operate the St. Mary's Food Bank at 5605 N 55th Avenue in Glendale.

As the number of households needing assistance rose, it was evident that a major regional food bank distributor was needed. The nonprofit then transitioned into the St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance; which now disperses more than 800 million pounds of donated food a year to over 330 partner agencies. The emergency food boxes are provided to households and individuals at no cost. These food boxes are designed to provide temporary food assistance during times of crisis until a more permanent solution is found.

There are numerous partner agencies in Glendale where St. Mary's delivers food boxes, and the boxes are made available to households in our community who are in need.

The City has provided Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, which it receives from US Department of Housing and Urban Development, to St. Mary's Food Bank yearly since 1989 in support of the food delivery and food box programs. To date the nonprofit has received over \$500,000 in CDBG fund for this purpose.

Community Benefit/Public Involvement

The City and St. Mary's have collaborated in an effort to end hunger in our community for many years. This partnership seeks to bridge the meal gap; connecting household in our community with the nutritious meals

they need. This effort addresses the most human basic need and has the greatest impact on the health and vitality of the City's most vulnerable population.