

Letter From The **Executive Director**

Dear Friends,

As we embark upon a new year, I am honored to share the remarkable achievements and impact Second Helpings Atlanta has made in our community in 2023.

2023 was a transformative year for our organization. Steering through a transition in leadership and successfully concluding a strategic planning process, we concurrently expanded our operations to address the surging demand fueled by inflation and soaring food prices across the Atlanta metro. Against this backdrop, collaborative efforts and the steadfast backing of our donors, dedicated volunteers, and valued partner agencies propelled us to surpass unprecedented milestones.

With the support of 994 dedicated volunteers, we distributed a record-breaking 5.8 million pounds of food - equivalent to more than 4.8 million meals - to a network of more than 100 nonprofit partner agencies who are providing food to families in need throughout the Atlanta metro.

These numbers are a testament to our community-led model that empowers communities to create a more sustainable future for the next generation while providing critical nutrition to their neighbors who need it most. Our volunteers are the backbone of our organization's success and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each person who has contributed their time, resources, and support to our cause.

As we reflect on the achievements of 2023, we stand on the threshold of an incredibly significant milestone: the celebration of 20 years of Second Helpings Atlanta.

In the year ahead, we will reach the 1 millionth meal through our Meals with Meaning program in partnership with HelloFresh, continue to grow our food donors while making investments in technology and staff development that will optimize our operations and empower us to serve more individuals and families with the dignity they deserve.

Of course, none of this today would be possible without the vision, passion, and kindness of our founder, Guenther Hecht, whom we lost in 2023. Guenther's kindness and love have inspired millions and brought about positive change in the lives of those benefiting from Second Helpings Atlanta's services over the years. One meal can change a person's life, and that change can, in turn, make the world better. Guenther's provision of millions of meals has undoubtedly improved the world countless times. To all who knew and loved him, we are committed to carrying forward his light.

The impact of our two decades of service echoes through the countless lives touched, the families nourished, and the communities strengthened. As we embark on this momentous year, we invite you to join us in celebrating the resilience of Second Helpings Atlanta and the collective impact we can make in the fight against hunger and food waste. Together, we look forward to building a stronger, more connected community and continuing to provide nourishment and hope to those who rely on our support.

Paul Clements
Executive Director

Second Helpings Atlanta 2023 Impact Report

MISSION

Second Helpings Atlanta reduces hunger and food waste by rescuing healthy, nutritious surplus food and distributing it to those in need.

VISION

A food secure world with zero food waste.



Food Donors
Facilitated Fresh
Food Donations

IMPACT



Pounds of Nutritious Food distributed



Meals Provided to our Food Rescue Network

Partner Agencies
Supported
Through our Food
Rescue Network



4,565

Tons of
Greenhouse
Gas Emissions
Avoided

Equivalent to Powering

575

Houses for a Year

SERVICE AREA

Counties Served Clayton · Cobb · Coweta DeKalb · Douglas · Fayette · Forsyth · Fulton · Gwinnett · Hall



SHA Saved our Partner Agencies:

\$11,144,029

In Food Costs.

VOLUNTEERS

994

VolunteersEngaged with our
Mission

10,039

Food Rescue Routes Driven 400K

Meals with Meaning Kits Packed



"I don't have the words to express my gratitude for being able to deliver this much needed food to the ladies and their children at Mary Hall. I was moved to tears at the happiness expressed at seeing around 30 gallons of milk, and enjoyed hearing directly from her about the recipients of the food. I am so grateful to be a part of it all. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

Arlene KatzSecond Helpings Atlanta Volunteer

"Much, if not most, of the food rescue donations that SHA brings to us are fresh items, particularly fresh produce. We are trying to ensure that the food we distribute is healthy and nutritious, and we get excited to give out fresh produce for that reason. Without what SHA brings, the food we share would not have the same value nutritionally."







"Being able to volunteer with Second Helpings nurtures my yearning to show and spread love for all, even if I am not the one physically providing the food them. The partnerships that SHA has curated over the years with their volunteer network, food donors and partner agencies truly makes an impact to those who are in need."

Joseph TrentacostaSecond Helpings Atlanta Volunteer

Mercedes-Benz Stadium has been working with Second Helpings since the stadium opened in 2017. In that time, they have helped recover over 350,000 pounds of food that was used for its intended purpose of giving people healthy nutrition. We appreciate how flexible they are; always working with the stadium to make sure all food that can be recovered is distributed to our community.



