

GLEANING & FOOD RECOVERY



Operated by Christians Reaching Out to Society, Inc. (C.R.O.S. Ministries), in partnership with Village Baptist Church and the Community Food Alliance of Palm Beach County, gleaning is a traditional way of collecting crops from farmers' fields that have either been mechanically harvested or it is not economically profitable to harvest. At times growers will also donate food that has already been harvested.



Gleaning brings together growers, volunteers, and nonprofit agencies to provide for the hungry FRESH produce that would otherwise go to waste.



According to the USDA, more than 96 billion pounds of food is wasted each year while about

one out of every ten Americans scrapes by without enough to eat.



With each growing season, precious goods are left in the farmers' fields which are not harvested because it is considered commercially undesirable.



Food from fields that would otherwise be wasted is gathered by volunteers



The donated food is then given to local agencies with feeding programs for homeless, working poor or low-income individuals and families.



Within 4 to 48 hours of picking, people in need are eating the fresh produce harvested through gleaning



Our volunteers are people of all ages



the whole community can participate and form a foundation of action groups that really make a difference

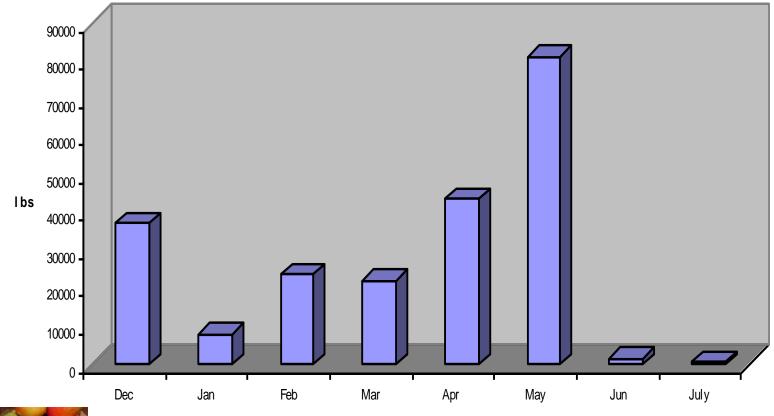


Working with more than 120 local non-profits, the Food Recovery program was able to feed approximately 117,000 individuals in about 35,000 families of all races and religions all across Palm Beach County in 2009



Poundage Gleaned 09-10 217,947 lbs.





months





During the 2009-2010 season, over 2.7 million lbs were transported





Thank you notes from our younger gleaners

Name: Victoria hank Thank's for letine us pich













Some Quotes from our Agencies

"We are in awe at the variety and quality of produce we have received; this is not throw away stuff...thank you!"



"Wow, I heard this over and over as I handed out, corn 5 ears, tomatoes large bag, onions 3 large, cucumbers 3-5 and mango 2, thank you!"



"Before the Free Produce, we were only able to give our families 3 cans of food and a little bit of bread, now they are able to receive a box of mixed produce with their food. Thank You!"



"We have been able to feed over 500 additional people because of the free produce you have given us."



"Thank you soooooo much for including us in today's produce pickup. Thanks to you we were able to share fresh produce with over 75 families in county housing and seniors at Area Aging on Agency distributed to over 75 clients."



Extra Pictures









































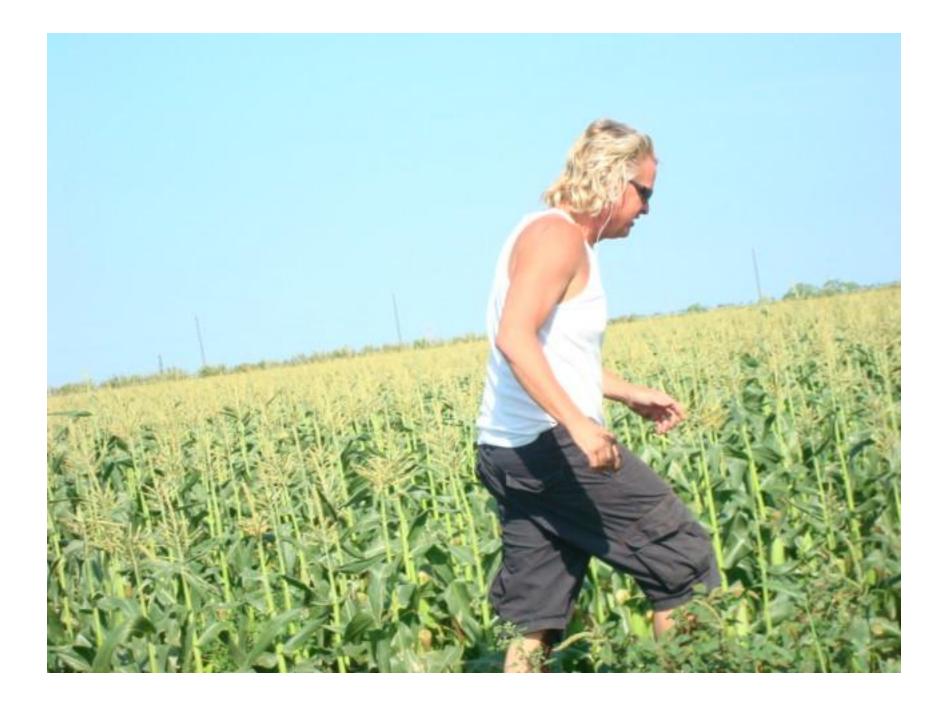












































































The End



