



2 scoops

— summer 2023 —



MAUI FOOD BANK
Helping the Hungry

Bocce Tournament Rolls Up Big Benefits for Maui Keiki

What do you suppose happens when 160 bocce players, representing 40 teams, face off in a huge tournament?

If it's Maui's 12th Annual Ultra-Festive Bocce Tournament, participants have a lot of fun, *and a lot of kids get fed!*

This year's event was held in two locations: Manoli's Pizza Company, and Mulligans on the Blue, with the winning team from each location facing off the following week for the championship.

In a nail-biting final showdown, the Maui Fire Department team, dubbed the "Flame Throwers," ultimately defeated the "Great Balls of Fire" team that represented Hawaii Life Real Estate Brokers. Meanwhile, the "La Bocce's" were crowned the tournament's "Best Dressed."

The event was fun for everyone, but the real winners of the competition were local keiki from food-insecure families — that's because the bocce tournament raised enough funds to provide *24,000 healthy meals for the Aloha Backpack Buddies program!*

The "Aloha Backpack Buddies" program, an outreach of the Maui Food Bank, was the beneficiary of the event. This program serves kids in 34 local schools, providing food-insecure students with a backpack stuffed with 6 meals to carry them through the weekend.

The Maui Food Bank extends a big "thank you" to everyone who made this event possible! And a special Mahalo to Patrick Kilbride, our resident Bocce-meister.





MAUI FOOD BANK
Helping the Hungry

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Maui Food Bank

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Our MISSION

Maui Food Bank's mission is to help the hungry in Maui County by collecting and distributing food through community partnerships.

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From the desk of
RICHARD YUST



Volunteers Step Up to Help Alleviate Hunger on Maui

Here at Maui Food Bank, it didn't take long to realize that the words we use to sum up our purpose — *"To help the hungry in Maui County by collecting and distributing food through community partnerships"* — is really an all-consuming daily mission.

The fact that you're taking a moment to read our newsletter means it's likely that we share the belief that everyone deserves access to fresh and nutritious food, regardless of their financial situation.

And it's people like you — who believe in our mission and jump aboard by donating funds, food, and time — that inspire us to continually expand, fine-tune and improve upon our long-running programs. Meanwhile, we continue to address the issue of hunger, creating solutions by implementing effective programs and services.

Our life-sustaining programs reach across Maui County to meet life's most essential need — food — and numerous people and organizations in our island community have stepped up to help. For example, a number of local churches have offered their campuses, and volunteers help distribute food to those who are food insecure.

Mahalo to all the volunteers who have tirelessly given their time and treasure to alleviate hunger.

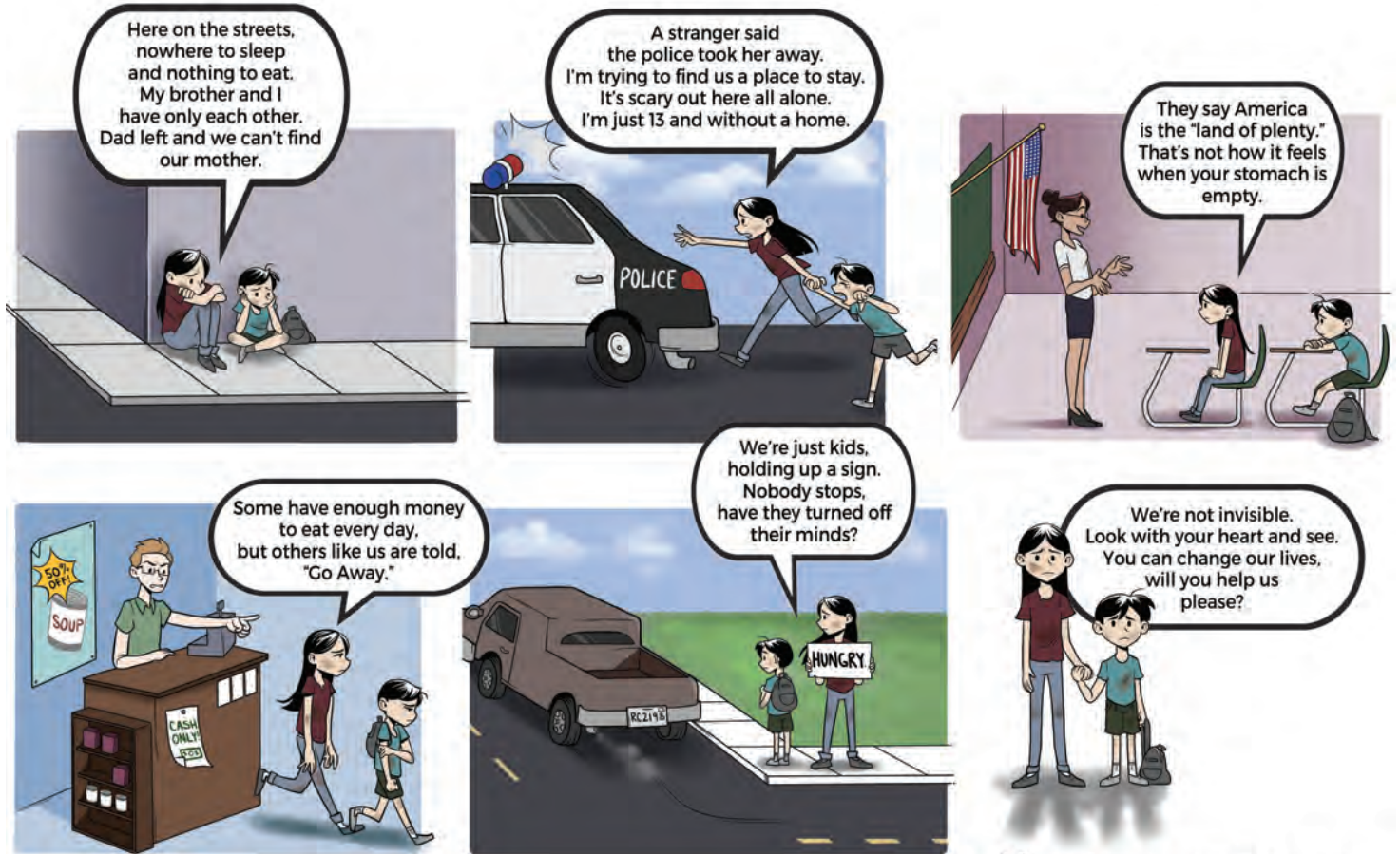
Our goal is to help create a community without hunger, and that takes a lot of volunteers. Won't you help us make that dream a reality?


Richard Yust, Executive Director



Do You See Us?

Rice / Carmichael



 Help us end child hunger!
mauifoodbank.org

Who Are the New Faces of Hunger?

When you witness hunger on Maui, it is like entering the twilight zone – severe hunger is often prevalent right next to opulence.

If you look closely at school campuses, you will see children and youth during the school lunch break standing in the schoolyard with nothing to eat. If you ask the right questions, you might learn that many of these kids are forced to skip meals and snacks because their parents need the money to pay rent rather than buy food. Or possibly their family is homeless and there just isn't enough money to make sure the kids are getting proper nutrition.

It's a simple fact that a child's chance for a bright tomorrow starts with getting enough of the right kinds of foods today. And when hungry children are focusing on food, that often leads to neglect of other areas of life, such as schoolwork.

One out of five kids in Maui County is at risk of going hungry, and hunger has only negative outcomes. Often children who don't know where their next meal is coming from feel ashamed and isolated by the stigma associated with their lack of food.

The Maui Food Bank believes every child deserves a chance at a healthy start.

To help combat hunger and malnutrition right here in our community, call the Maui Food Bank today and ask how you can help fight childhood hunger.

Food Bank Volunteers Discover Life-Changing Benefits

Throughout the years, Colleen and Arnold Wunder of Pukalani have been making a difference at the Maui Food Bank. For example, once a month they lead a key group of volunteers who pack family food boxes and bags that are distributed to over 1,000 people in need.

In addition, Colleen and Arnold volunteer Monday mornings, stocking empty shelves at the Food Bank with safe and nutritious food, which is then made available to 177 partner agencies who serve the hungry in Maui County.

The Wunders also organize a drive-through food distribution event every fourth Saturday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Pukalani Chapel. Through this event alone, they serve over 100 people a month who are in need of hunger relief.

“We love volunteering at the Food Bank ... it’s very rewarding,” commented Arnold. Colleen added, “Delivering food bags to Maui’s homeless people has been a significant experience for us, because we now realize that what we’re doing is literally changing people’s lives. Our biggest blessing has been getting to know the homeless as people and having an opportunity to help them.”

Arnold concludes, “Getting personally involved with helping Maui’s hungry has been a life-changing experience for us. We recommend it to everyone!”



For information on getting involved with the Maui Food Bank, visit MauiFoodBank.org or call 808-243-9500.

Foodies Confess! Food Bank Staff Members Reveal Their Favorite Foods



Technically, our Maui Food Bank staff members are working with food all day, every day, as they endeavor to feed hungry people in Maui County. But have you ever wondered what foods they themselves favor at the end of the day? We did, so we asked them!

Together the staff is a “mixed plate” of island favorites. And we discovered something amusing about Erick, the warehouse coordinator, when he confessed to his love of “Rocky Road” ice cream!

We’re grateful for the diligent efforts of our staff members ... Mahalo for all you do to serve the hungry in Maui County!

Here’s a run-down of the Favorite Foods of the Maui Food Bank staff:

- ⇒ **Richard Yust** Executive Director
Favorite Food: Fresh Fruit
- ⇒ **Marlene Rice** Development Director
Favorite Food: Risotto
- ⇒ **Charity Hartman** Agency Director
Favorite Food: Chocolate Chip Cookies w/ Sprinkle of Sea Salt
- ⇒ **Brandi Saragosa** Director of Operations
Favorite Food: Steak
- ⇒ **Judy Franco** Accountant / HR
Favorite Food: Hamburger Steak
- ⇒ **Chelsey Ham** Community Relations Manager
Favorite Food: Sushi
- ⇒ **Ashley Gonzales** Community Programs Coordinator
Favorite Food: Everything Hamachi
- ⇒ **Susan Tavares** Data Entry Administrator
Favorite Food: Tacos
- ⇒ **Addie Teixeira-Browne** Aloha Backpack Buddies Program Coordinator
Favorite Food: Steak
- ⇒ **Erick Acideira** Warehouse Coordinator
Favorite Food: Ice Cream
- ⇒ **Trina DeCoite** Warehouse Clerk
Favorite Food: Sam Sato’s Noodles
- ⇒ **Chance Barretto, Jr.** Driver & Warehouse Staff
Favorite Food: Spaghetti
- ⇒ **Hyland Corden** Driver & Warehouse Staff
Favorite Food: Poke
- ⇒ **Keanu Miller** Driver & Warehouse Staff
Favorite Food: Fish
- ⇒ **Rex Sarbida** Driver & Warehouse Staff
Favorite Food: Poke