

Transformations: Adapting to Meet the Need



Caring
for Friends™

2021
ANNUAL
REPORT

2021 IMPACT

**Thank YOU For Providing Food and
Friendship To Our Neighbors!**



12 Million
Pounds of Food

9,000
Homebound Clients
Served/Month



10,000+
Volunteers

200+
Community Partners



3k+

Servings/Week To
People Facing
Homelessness

Dear Caring Community,

I want to thank all who have supported us since our inception in 1974, and those who joined our community in the past few years. Since COVID, some have (understandably) stepped back, but others have stepped in – and stepped up – to help the unusually high number of those in need.

Thanks to this caring community, we have scaled at a rate that we thought wasn't possible. In 2021, our network of 10,000 volunteers, partners, and staff distributed three times as much food as pre-pandemic, plus delivered meals to almost 10,000 homebound people, and provided sandwiches, snack bags, and soup to people facing homelessness. This wouldn't have been possible without YOU.

When people asked, "Can you help?" our answer – thanks to you – was always "yes." Despite supply chain disruptions and sky-rocketing prices, we worked together to share food and friendship with neighbors in need. We have always been, and will always be the easy button, working with groups in the communities they serve, six days a week, all year round.

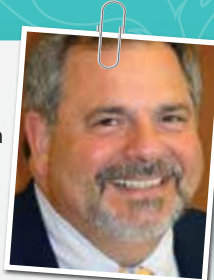
So far in 2022, we've instituted new infrastructure and undertaken capacity-building by:

- Increasing staff and building our board
- Developing new relationships to fight inflation and food system disruptions
- Pursued new systems for increased efficiency and effectiveness.

We've also opened a new warehouse in Delaware County to better serve partners closer to home. As more internal and external changes occur, we hope you'll continue to support our mission set almost 50 years ago – to ensure no one is hungry or alone in a world of caring people.

In gratitude,

Vincent Schiavone
Chairman & CEO



Sharing Friendship During a Pandemic

Many people wonder how CFF fulfills the **friendship** part of our mission. In pre-pandemic times, that meant not just bringing meals to homebound neighbors, but visiting with them to help combat loneliness and isolation. **The CDC says that loneliness and social isolation are linked to increases in serious health conditions, such as dementia, heart disease, and depression.** So we had to think differently about how mission delivery looked in 2021, especially as many of the homebound seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities we serve are at high-risk of contracting the virus.

So **instead of face-to-face interactions, we thought the next best thing was a monthly phone call.** When we reached out, we ensured our clients were still getting and enjoying their meals, and, almost more important, that they were doing OK. Many home delivery volunteers do more than provide a week of meals, they also **provide companionship**, change a lightbulb or provide a referral to a resource a client may need. We found that clients appreciated these calls, so we have made them part of our work to improve what we do for those who need us most.



Extraordinary Times, Extraordinary Support

The late Eugene Hughes and his son, Wayne, have been a part of Caring for Friends since the day they met our founder, Rita, many years ago. They have made **wide-ranging donations** over the years including gifts in-kind of office equipment and time, event sponsorships, and annual donations. When Eugene passed away, we learned this extraordinary man remembered Rita and Caring for Friends in his will by making a bequest of stock and a transformative gift from his estate to us.

Wayne, the executor of his father's will, informed us he also has included a specific **bequest gift for Caring for Friends** in his will – between the two, they will have left transformational donations to better help us meet our mission of sharing food and friendship.

"The Hughes are very special in **their commitment to helping others** through their generous donations and bequests," notes Caring for Friends CEO, Vince Schiavone. "The support of caring people like the Hughes family, **allows us to help thousands of food insecure neighbors** throughout our community. I know how touched and thankful Rita would be for Eugene remembering and supporting CFF even after his death."

To learn more about how to remember Caring for Friends in your will, please contact renee@caringforfriends.org or call 215-464-2224





Extraordinary Donations

The Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market (PWPM) is the largest refrigerated building in the world, housing 700,000 square feet of the world's freshest produce. This produce hub was a pick-up location throughout the years, but in 2021, **two vendors, TMK Produce and Pinto Brothers, Inc, became daily donors to Caring for Friends**. This transformational partnership allowed our trucks to pick up over 100,000 pounds of perfectly good excess produce a month which allowed us to fulfill the Farm to Family produce box program, and to **provide healthy, nutritious food** to our homebound, homeless, and hungry neighbors in need.

Board of Directors

Caring for Friends is grateful to its volunteer board of directors, which draws from the business, social services, and religious communities of the greater Philadelphia area. We also welcome new board members as we look towards the future of the organization.

Chair & CEO

Vincent J. Schiavone
Entrepreneur

Charlene Spencer Baylis
Corrections Officer, Philadelphia Prison System

Tina Beaumont
Managing Director,
Accenture *(Joined 2022)*

James Delaney
CEO, JD Capital, Inc.

Rev. Msgr. John Jagodzinski, MA
Parochial Vicar (Senior Priest),
St. Pius X Catholic Church

Henry Rossi
Retired Executive, Accenture



Our Team Grows

Last year, we welcomed new faces, and said goodbye to others. Vince Schiavone, Chair of the Board, and son of our founder, Rita Ungaro-Schiavone, now serves as CEO. We have also hired for key leadership positions, including Chief Operating Officer, Managing Director of Development, and Managing Director of Communications and Corporate Relations, and hired for other roles within the organization to help bring in more food, as well as friends, like you, our many valued volunteers and partners.

Top Volunteers

While 2020 seems like a long time ago, it doesn't mean volunteer efforts were any less important. As we weren't able to celebrate with the top volunteers of 2020, we wanted to give them a shout out to thank them for the hours of packing, cooking, delivering, and other work to help us meet our mission.

2020 AWARDEES:

- Caring Company of the Year: Blue Crew at Independence Blue Cross
- Caring Community Organization of the Year: Brothers of Strawberry Mansion
- Caring Faith-Based Organization of the Year: Reverend Nancy Jackson and Zion AME Church
- Caring Individual of the Year: Christopher Smith
- Caring Driver of the Year: Ivan Collier
- Caring Visitor of the Year: Joe Palermo
- Caring Kitchen Award: Food Friends
- Caring Cooking Church of the Year: St Andrew's Episcopal Church of Yardley
- Caring School of the Year: St Joseph's Preparatory School
- Caring School District of the Year: Lower Merion School District

2021 AWARDEES:

- Rita Ungaro-Schiavone Volunteers of the Year: Arlene and Tony Urbanski
- Caring Company of the Year: ACME Markets
- Caring Community Organization of the Year: Rotary Club of Glenside
- Caring Faith-Based Organization of the Year: Pastor Luisa Baerga and Iglacia de Milagro
- Caring Kitchen Award: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- Caring Kitchen Volunteers: John and Rose Kirby
- Caring Driver of the Year: Chris Wilson at Seven Mile Road Church
- Caring Visitor of the Year: Jeff Frazier
- Caring Cooking Church of the Year: St. Martin of Tours
- Caring School of the Year: New Foundations Charter School
- Caring Office Volunteer: Marianne Bonner
- Caring Snack Room Volunteer: Philip Zucker
- Caring Warehouse Volunteer: Daniel Coonan



PICTURED: Left to Right: 1. ACME Markets
2. Pastor Luisa Baerga and Brad Mills, COO 3. Rose and John Kirby

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Caring for Friends' donors are vital to the sustainability of our organization. Many of our donors are also volunteers, thus giving their time, talent, and treasure. We are deeply grateful for their support, generosity, and the incredible impact they make in our community.

\$10,000+

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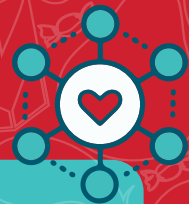
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Sharing Food + Friendship Thanks to You

We rely on generous donors, volunteers, corporations, and community-based organizations, including schools; here are a few of those who made transformational impact in 2021.



A new partner, Parx Casino, brought in food, funds, and friends: they donated \$15,000, held a two-month food drive, volunteered to sort and pack the food, and helped us cook and distribute meals to Bucks County senior centers in Bristol and Falls Townships.



The USO at the Philadelphia Airport embarked on a partnership with us to help achieve its mission of offering care, comfort, and support for military members and families traveling through the airport. Brian Loughlin, Center Manager estimates, "Working with Caring for Friends has saved us about \$75,000-\$100,000 in the past year – money we can put back into serving military, national guard, reserves, retirees, and their families"



We collaborated with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to bring food and friendship to our neighbors across Philadelphia every Saturday.



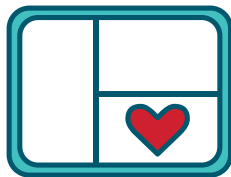
Archdiocese
of
Philadelphia



Caring for Friends™

Sharing food and friendship

Founded in 1974 on the belief that no one should be hungry or alone in a world of caring people, Caring for Friends is a volunteer organization and independent food bank serving greater Philadelphia. CFF provides food and friendship to homebound seniors, veterans, and those with disabilities; provides food to people facing homelessness; and donates food to more than 250 community partners in unserved and underserved neighborhoods. In 2021, CFF rescued, sourced, and distributed more than 12 million pounds of food. Donate or volunteer to cook meals, pack snacks, make deliveries or visit with clients at caringforfriends.org.



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CaringForFriends.org ♥ 215-464-2224