

New Services, New Staff, and New and Returning Volunteers Looking Forward to the Holidays and a New Year Filled with Hope and Anticipation of Good Things to Come

**Bienvenidos
Outreach, Inc.**

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Happy holidays to all!

What a year! Cautiously going in to 2022, we still felt the sense of responsibility to our clients to offer more services in order to help them restart their lives as Covid restrictions were lifted.

As mentioned in our Spring/Summer newsletter, we started a test-run of our **Pet Pantry** program. We are pleased to announce that due to its success, we will be keeping the program as part of our regular on-going services. We are now discussing whether to include other pet species (rabbits, reptiles, hamsters, fish) and will be checking with our clients whether this is of interest to them or not. Thank you to those who have donated specifically to this program. If you would like all or part of your contribution to go to the program, please specify this on your return envelope enclosed in this letter.

In July, in our new partnership with **DoorDash**, we began our home delivery service for those who are unable to come to our pantry to pick up food. We deliver to those clients who either lack reliable transportation to our pantry or who have a disability that makes it unsafe or impossible to travel outside of their homes. We still have room to add more clients to this service and feel we will be using the service at

100% capacity by March 2023. To achieve this, we need a couple of dedicated volunteers to assist us on Thursday mornings, the day the deliveries go out each week. We are looking for 2 people who would oversee putting the boxes together for clients. Each client receives 2 packages of food, each weighing approximately 25 pounds. Help is needed between 9:00am-11:00am. If you can help, even if it is only once or twice a month, please call Clarissa. She'd love to have you on the team!

The holiday season also means we are very busy getting ready to receive the gifts for our children that our generous donors provide and giving out Food King food vouchers to our clients so that they may have a wonderful holiday meal with their families and friends. This is the time of year we all give thanks to what we have in our lives and also give thanks that we can help others. Isn't that what the holiday season is all about?

On behalf of everyone at Bienvenidos Outreach, we wish you a wonderful new year and look forward to what we will all do together to make this world a better place.



Photo above: (l-r) Clarissa Saiz, Assistant Director and Elizabeth Lara, our newest member to the staff, taking a moment during the day to start working on Christmas decorating at the pantry. Clarissa just celebrated her 1 year work anniversary with us and Elizabeth has been on staff since the last week of July.

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Thursday

8:00am-1:00pm

Closed Friday-Sunday

Inclement weather policy: For the safety of our staff, volunteers, donors and clients, if Santa Fe Public Schools are closed, then we will be closed.

Clothing & Household Donations:

Please call us at 505-986-0583 to make an appointment to bring in clothing & household good donations. Please do not leave donations outside of the building after business hours. Those items will need to be thrown out for safety reasons. Thank you!



FY2021-2022 Totals: (as of 6/30/22)

<i>New applications</i>	221
<i>Boxes given out</i>	7,859
<i>Lunches handed out</i>	11,110
<i>Visits to clothing room</i>	3,087
<i>Volunteer hours donated</i>	12,221
<i>Number of seniors served</i>	512
<i>Number of children served</i>	736

Individual Donors —An Important Part of Our Operations



In the past, we have highlighted some of our business and institutional donors who help keep Bienvenidos Outreach in the business of serving our community. Now we will be spotlighting the individual donors who make up the majority of our donors and who are very special people that we are happy to call our friends.

Pam Walker is one of our donors who we are so honored to know and who has been a great supporter of our mission.

Pam is a writer and a local farm and food activist. She is the author of *Growing Good Things to Eat in Texas: Profiles of Organic Farmers and Ranchers across the State* (Texas A & M University Press, 2009) and of articles that have appeared in *edible Austin*, *edible Houston*, *edible New Mexico* and *the Houston Chronicle*. Because of her generosity to us, we receive fresh foods on a regular basis year-round from Revolution Farm on top of what is donated to us by the owner of the farm, Alex Pino. She has also inspired others to donate money for purchases of food from local farmers. Thank you, Pam, for all you do! You are truly a local hero!

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Executive Director: Susan Tarver
Assistant Director: Clarissa Saiz
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Pictured Above at the Eldorado Farmers' Market this year: (left to right) Susan Tarver, Executive Director of Bienvenidos Outreach, Alex Pino, owner of Revolution Farm, and Pam Walker, fierce supporter of farmers markets, local foods and donor extraordinaire to Bienvenidos Outreach. Following her lead, another donor is making sure freshly-picked local food from Alex's Farm arrives at our pantry year round.



Make our dog & cat clients happy this season with a donation in honor of your dog and/or cat! Send us your pet's name with your donation (or donate online through our website and use the dedication section to place your information) and we will publish their names in the next newsletter.



Other ways to help/donate to Bienvenidos Outreach:

- 1) **Organize a food drive at your place of business, church or club.**
- 2) **Start a Matching Funds challenge—we'll help you get started and to promote it!**
- 3) **Honor someone special in your life with a donation to Bienvenidos Outreach in their name.**
- 4) **Volunteer your time! We need help at the food pantry picking up food donations from stores, putting together DoorDash orders, keeping our inventory properly stored and other tasks we need done to keep the pantry operating.**
- 5) **Host an event or help us with fundraising. Do you have that special gift of coordinating events? Please contact us if you would like to work with us.**
- 6) **Share your ideas with us on what we can do to better involve more of our community in our efforts. Thank you!**