2022-23 Community Impact Report

Enriching lives through healthy eating.





SOCIALIZATION VS ISOLATION | NOURISHING VETERANS
RELATIONAL VS TRANSACTIONAL | NOURISHING SENIORS
INDEPENDENCE VS DEPENDENCE | NOURISHING GRANDCHILDREN

The mission of Diana Gregory Outreach Services is to enrich lives through healthy eating.

It was the summer of 1964 when Diana Gregory's dedication to seniors began...

She was an eight-year-old girl playing with friends when she noticed that her 85-year-old neighbor, Ms. Fannie, needed help. Ms. Fannie had taken two buses to the grocery store and needed assistance hauling her groceries up the eight flights of stairs back to her apartment. Diana didn't know it at the time, but Ms. Fannie lived in a "food desert" and had limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Today, more than 50 years later, this problem still persists. At this defining moment, Diana made a vow to help seniors.

In 2008, Diana retired after a successful career with Anheuser-Busch and was determined to use her knowledge and skills to make the world a better place. She has made it her mission to supply nutritious foods to older adults like Ms. Fannie—a group that has limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables—along with a healthy dose of respect.



What Makes **Gregory's Fresh Market Different?**

While fresh produce is the main ingredient, volunteers are our secret sauce.

We sincerely care about the seniors we serve—greeting folks with a smile and a hug. These connections—knowing their names, asking about their lives, talking about menu ideas—all help reduce isolation.

When seniors are physically able to visit a food bank, they are merely provided with prepared food boxes, with little or no choice involved. Most of the folks we serve have difficulty getting around—most use walkers or wheelchairs. Sponsorships make it possible for seniors to receive produce at no charge. Most importantly, they are given an opportunity to genuinely connect with others—which, for many, may be very infrequent.

We fulfill our mission by providing access to fresh produce to low-income seniors, veterans and vulnerable individuals in our community.

Socialization vs Isolation:

Nourishing Veterans

Albert came home from Vietnam with a chip on his shoulder, shrapnel in his knee and PTSD. Over the years, he became more isolated and lonelier. Living on and off the streets, Albert found a home at Victory Place, which specializes in temporary housing for homeless veterans. Since moving to his apartment, he has developed a bond with a few of the Gregory's Fresh Market volunteers. He looks forward to each visit, not only to filling his refrigerator, but filling his heart with the warmth of new friends.



21,663 **VETERANS**

age of 65 living in

Relational vs Transactional:Nourishing Seniors

The pastor at Mildred's church brought her to Gregory's Fresh Market in 2016. He was concerned she was not getting enough to eat and was isolated from others due to her hearing loss. The volunteers at Gregory's Fresh Market welcomed Mildred with open arms and assisted her with filling her shopping bag with fresh fruit and vegetables. She was ecstatic to see fresh collard greens, as she always remembered her mother making them each Sunday after church. When we visit her neighborhood, Mildred rarely misses a visit which has become just as much social time as an opportunity to purchase fresh produce.



One out of seven seniors in Arizona goes to bed hungry because they have to choose between food and medication and they choose medication.

"Gregory's Outreach Services and Gregory's Fresh Market are wonderful community partners serving those who deserve our utmost respect—our elders. Care1st Health Plan and Wellcare, a Centene Company, and the hundreds of members we serve appreciate the nutritional and social support Diana Gregory and her volunteers bring to our communities."

-ANNA MARIA MALDONADO, CONSULTANT, MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS



"We support Gregory's Fresh
Market because they understand
the importance of providing healthy
options in food deserts to help
underserved families."

Independence vs Dependence:

Nourishing Grandchildren

Bordering on Type 2 Diabetes, Louella was overweight, living off soda, junk food and snacks. Her doctor warned her that the next step was amputation of her toes. A social worker connected Louella with Gregory's Fresh Market who helped her discover the joy of eating healthy. Instead of being confined to a wheelchair, Louella now chooses fresh food over processed meals and has lost 40 pounds to boot! She often brings her grandson Teddy, who loves participating in Gregory's Fresh Market

Cooking Classes that instill healthy eating in his life, too.

NEARLY 9,000 GRANDPARENTS

on fixed incomes are raising their grandchildren in Arizona Thank you to donors and the following partners for helping Gregory's Fresh Market combat food insecurity.

- AARP
- ABC15 Arizona
- African American Women's Giving and Empowerment Circle
- American Heart Association
- Arizona Public Service (APS)
- Archer-Ragsdale Arizona Chapter of Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.
- Arizona Cardinals
- Arizona Community Foundation
- Arizona Complete Health
- Arizona Department of Veterans' Services
- Arizona Informant Newspaper
- AZTV7
- BHHS Legacy Foundation
- Black Philanthropy Initiative
- Carstens Family Funds
- City of Avondale
- City of Tolleson
- Cox Communications
- Delta Dental
- Desert Botanical Garden
- Dignity Health-St. Joseph's
- Harrah's
- Ibis Foundation of Arizona
- Kroger Foundation & Fry's Food Stores
- Local First Arizona
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
- Mission of Mercy Arizona
- Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
- Peddler's Son Produce & Provisions
- Phoenix Rotary 100
- Phoenix VA Health Care System
- Priory of the Light
- Rob & Melani Walton Foundation
- Southwest Airlines
- Salt River Project (SRP)
- Salt River Project (SRP) African American Cultural Committee (AACC)
- State Farm
- Sundt Foundation
- Thunderbird Charities
- Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
- Walmart Foundation
- YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix

BUILDING CAPACITY and on the Road to Growth

Financial support from Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust has funded a 2-year position for an administrative assistant.



Special Acknowledgment:

APS, Arizona Complete Health, BHHS Legacy Foundation, Ibis Foundation of Arizona, LISC, Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, Delta Dental, Fry's, Southwest Airlines, State Farm, SRP, Sundt Foundation and Walmart Foundation

2022-23 COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Celebrated 15-Year Anniversary as an Essential Service and Serving the Community
- Pivoted to a Delivery Model and Served 20% More Veterans, Seniors and Families in 2023







2022-23 BY THE NUMBERS



400,000 pounds of fresh produce

Inspiring seniors and veterans to eat healthier





Serving seniors and veterans on fixed incomes, many without enough money at the end of the month to buy food

70 facilities



Visiting independent living and affordable housing in food deserts and underresourced areas of Maricopa County

20,000 seniors & veterans



Enriching the lives of lowincome and underserved seniors and veterans



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