



The other side of food insecurity.

According to studies done by the USDA (<https://goo.gl/5A55sF>), somewhere between 30 and 40 percent of the food supply in the United States is thrown in the garbage. That's well over 100,000,000,000 pounds of food thrown in the trash every year in this country. Seeing that number written out looks a bit ridiculous. Almost as ridiculous as a democratic nation of people throwing away over 100 billion pounds of food that they themselves spend the time and resources to produce every year. According to an article on NPR.org (<https://goo.gl/QBLs4N>), the average American eats almost 2,000 pounds of food per year. Doing a little math here that means around 50 million Americans could be fed with the food that their fellow citizens throw out each year. Seeing as 42.2 million Americans lived in food insecure households in 2015 (<https://goo.gl/Adq76w>), that means each and every one of them could have been well fed and we'd still have plenty of perfectly good food to throw in the garbage. Therein lies the framework of why I'm so passionate about food rescue.

With the help of many donors and over 300 volunteers per month, we've been able to make a small dent in those troubling statistics by receiving food from produce markets, restaurants, and grocery stores that are willing to donate good quality food that would otherwise be sent to a landfill and getting it into the homes of food insecure people and families at no cost to them (AKA rescuing food). We currently rescue somewhere around 3,000 pounds of food per week (just yesterday we received and distributed 1157 pounds of watermelons). You read that correctly, a little over half a ton of watermelons were rescued by Grace Klein Community yesterday. Honestly though, compared to the scale of the food waste combined with food insecurity issue, what we do is just a drop in the bucket.

There's a lot of work to be done in order tackle this problem but we're at the front end of what seems to be a progressive trend. Even the US government has recently started to incentivize and encourage reducing food waste by setting a goal to cut our food waste in half by 2030. People are being made aware of and working together to find and implement solutions to our food waste problem. Thanks for joining us as we do our part. If you'd like to do more, please consider donating, volunteering, and spreading the word about us and/or similar organizations in your area. Let's spend our short time on this planet working together to redeem these crazy statistics.

-Giorgio Fareira



#### How Can You Help?

I usually don't ask specifically for donations in my letters, but I'm asking this time. We're growing and with growth comes more responsibility and costs.

Please consider giving to Grace Klein Community. A one-time donation is awesome! A monthly commitment is amazing. Thank you!

Donations can be given online through [gracekleincommunity.com/donate](http://gracekleincommunity.com/donate)  
OR

check donations can be mailed to:

Grace Klein Community,  
1678 Montgomery Hwy #104, Birmingham, AL 35216.  
Include "Giorgio" in memo.