

Communities Organize Food Bank Distribution



Above: Families line up at Ansell Gardens to receive free food collected by the FSEVA, which receives donated food from companies, grocery stores, food drives, and other sources. The FSEVA distributes food every year to 22,800 low-income and low-wealth individuals.

With the help of the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia (FSEVA), Portsmouth, Virginia's Ansell Gardens and Cross Creek Apartments orchestrated a large food distribution for residents of both properties, as well as other individuals in the greater

community. Bags of donated food and groceries were collected, sorted, and distributed to over 200 families in need by FSEVA and CHP volunteers.

“It is wonderful to be able to share so much food with our communities. Many people, especially those with low-paying jobs, are at a real risk of hunger in these tough economic times. There isn't a lot of room in their budgets for food, so we try to help out when we can,” said Resident Services Coordinator Tonya Speller.

Panera Bread Makes a “Dough-Nation”

Ansell Gardens also has a new partnership with Panera Bread called Day-End Dough Nation, where unsold bakery products are donated and distributed once a week to Ansell Gardens residents.

Said Ansell Gardens Property Manager Sylvia Gaines, “Our community is very grateful for the delicious, free breads and pastries we receive every week. As the cost of food continues to rise, something like Panera's donation makes a big difference in the lives of our residents.”