



A Generous Donor and Her Volunteer Family

March 25, 2019 By: Tina Mortimer



Kathy Stack is a devoted mother, grandmother and community advocate for health, hunger relief and educational causes. A loyal donor and volunteer for more than 18 years, Kathy chose to include a gift to Second Harvest Heartland in her will. How did she come to the decision to make the move from regular donor to legacy donor?

“I saw a Second Harvest Heartland newsletter with a story about a

mother and her four-year-old son,” she said. “The caption read, ‘This mom won’t eat today so her son can.’ That was all the motivation I needed to become a monthly supporter and to include Second Harvest Heartland in my will.”

Yet it didn’t happen quite that fast. Kathy did her homework. She took the time to get to know our staff and learn about the programs and services we provide along with the vast network of hunger-relief agencies in Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

“I became aware of Second Harvest Heartland and the good work it was doing many years ago,” she said. “Since that time, though volunteering, attending meetings and getting to know the staff, I feel more strongly than ever that I must support this good work.”

Kathy also took the time to meet individuals and families at local food shelves.

“Learning how the programs and staff have a powerful impact on people’s lives has both informed and motivated me,” she said. “I now tell friends and family whenever I can that ‘Food

changes everything.’ I am so pleased to have Second Harvest Heartland in my estate plan and to support the [capital campaign](#).”

Kathy is quick to point out that there is still much work to be done to continue to meet the needs of the community. That’s one of the reasons she gives to our capital campaign, made Second Harvest Heartland a beneficiary of her estate, and why she’s started to encourage her friends and family to join what she lovingly calls her “volunteer family.”

“Second Harvest Heartland presented the ideal opportunity for me to introduce friends and family to enjoyable volunteer activities and to help spread the word that we need to do more. Whether it’s the annual Walk to End Hunger or something else, it has been easy to bring people into what I think of as my volunteer family.”

Kathy said one of the greatest joys of her life was introducing her grandsons, ages 12 and 16, to volunteering.

“Josh and Tyler and their parents have enthusiastically joined in to volunteer,” she said. “We now regularly participate in activities as a family. I am so proud of my grandsons for recognizing hunger is an issue with their friends at school and for pitching in.”

Leave Your Legacy

You can secure your legacy in a most meaningful way by making a commitment to the long-term stability of Second Harvest Heartland and the people we serve.

Using IRAs, bequests made through wills, revocable living trusts, appreciated stock, real estate, mutual funds, securities, life insurance and other giving options, you can ease the stress and worry of hunger for countless people well into the future. [Learn more about all the ways you can help.](#)