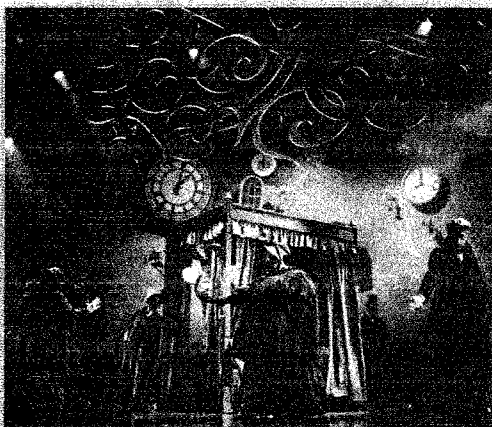


exist without the support of the many dedicated individuals, corporations, foundations, faith groups and other organizations that volunteer or host canned or virtual food drives. These committed community leaders are the heartbeat of the Food Bank, and we simply couldn't feed those in need without their help. We are endlessly grateful for their time, talent and resources in the fight against hunger. Thank you!

Dallas Theater Center patrons give big!

Dallas Theater Center patrons donated more than \$42,120 during the annual production of the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol*. Following 2008's collection of \$39,573, Dallas Theater Center patrons donated more in 2009 with fewer performances. This holiday season's donation will provide 168,496 meals for North Texans in need! Special thanks to Dallas Theater Center's artistic director Kevin Moriarty, and to the entire cast, crew, staff and all patrons who helped others this season!



Make a Difference



Olivia Coletto and her father, Dominic

Olivia Coletto has been volunteering at the North Texas Food Bank for as long as she can remember. Her father, Dominic, began bringing her to help sort and package food when she was just 3 years old.

The Coletto family has been serving at the Food Bank through their church, St. Ann Catholic Parish in Coppell, for seven years. Dominic says he felt it was important to instill the value of helping those in need in his children at an early age.

Olivia, now 10, continues to volunteer once a month with her father and 15 to 20 other members of St. Ann's. After seven years of serving at the Food Bank, Olivia has developed a strong passion for the hungry people she's helping. She says she particularly loves packing backpacks of food for hungry elementary school children through the *Food 4 Kids* program.

"They're my age – and to know they don't have food – it's so sad," she says. "But they have bags [of food] that I helped make!"

Olivia says volunteering at the Food Bank has made her more grateful for all that she has – and even more motivated to help her hungry neighbors.

"There are other people in the world who don't have as much as I do. I live so wonderfully," she says. "When I come here, I see how many people need help. It warms my heart to know I'm actually making a difference and making them feel better."

Olivia is living proof that you're never too young to make a difference in your community. We are grateful for and newly inspired by her genuine passion for the hungry in our community, as well as her father Dominic's dedication to our mission. It's the steadfast support of our invaluable volunteers and community leaders that make our work possible. Thank you!

To volunteer or to host a Virtual Food Drive, contact Sophia Sindalovsky at volunteer@ntfb.org.