



# Foodbank

An Australia Without Hunger

**Good Food for All...**

Greg Warren, Foodbank  
September 2012



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# Hunger in Australia

- Australia may be prosperous but the most disadvantaged remain challenged
- Gap widening between the 'haves' and 'have nots' with net wealth rising 28% and 4% respectively since 2003/04
- For 'low income / low wealth' households expenditure outstrips income
- For this group, since 2003/04:
  - Food prices have risen 4% higher than disposable income
  - Rent has risen 13% higher than disposable income
  - Electricity has risen 34% higher than disposable income
- And this group is large:
  - ACOSS survey of 665 agencies – 499,743 people received emergency relief
  - Foodbank's 2,600 agencies = 2 million

# Hunger in Australia

- It's not just a 3<sup>rd</sup> world problem
- A hidden problem in Australia
- 1 in 10 Australians seek food relief at some point
- Half of them are children
- Not just homeless, also low income households





# END HUNGER IN AUSTRALIA



End Hunger Report 2012  
Foodbank Australia

  
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# It's not who you think.

More welfare agencies  
are providing food to low  
income families (80%)  
than homeless (34%).



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# Agencies tell us...

- For 71% - *"our ability to provide food is a significant reason why people seek our service"*
- For 78% - *"our ability to provide food helps our staff build trust to offer our clients other services"*
- Frequency of assistance with food:
  - 25% daily
  - 42% several days a week
  - 16% weekly
  - 17% fortnightly – once a year
- 70% of agencies have increase in number seeking food relief
- 90% of agencies are not able to meet demand for food
- It's not who you think – low income households are most common group assisted – more than unemployed or single parents



# About Foodbank

- Foodbank – a simple conduit between the needs of the welfare sector and the food industry's surplus
- Founded in 1992
- Not for profit, non denominational
- National operations
- Operated by 90 employees and >30,000 volunteer days p.a.
- Largest hunger relief organisation in Australia
- 20,000 sqm of warehouses – all states
- 24m kg products in 2011/12

# How we work



Over 700 companies  
donate food and  
groceries

2,600 Welfare  
Agencies distribute  
food to people in need





Requires large scale effort to address hunger





Requires large scale effort to address hunger





Requires large scale effort to address hunger

## 2,600 member Welfare agencies

## Requires large scale effort to address hunger



# Some of the charities we support



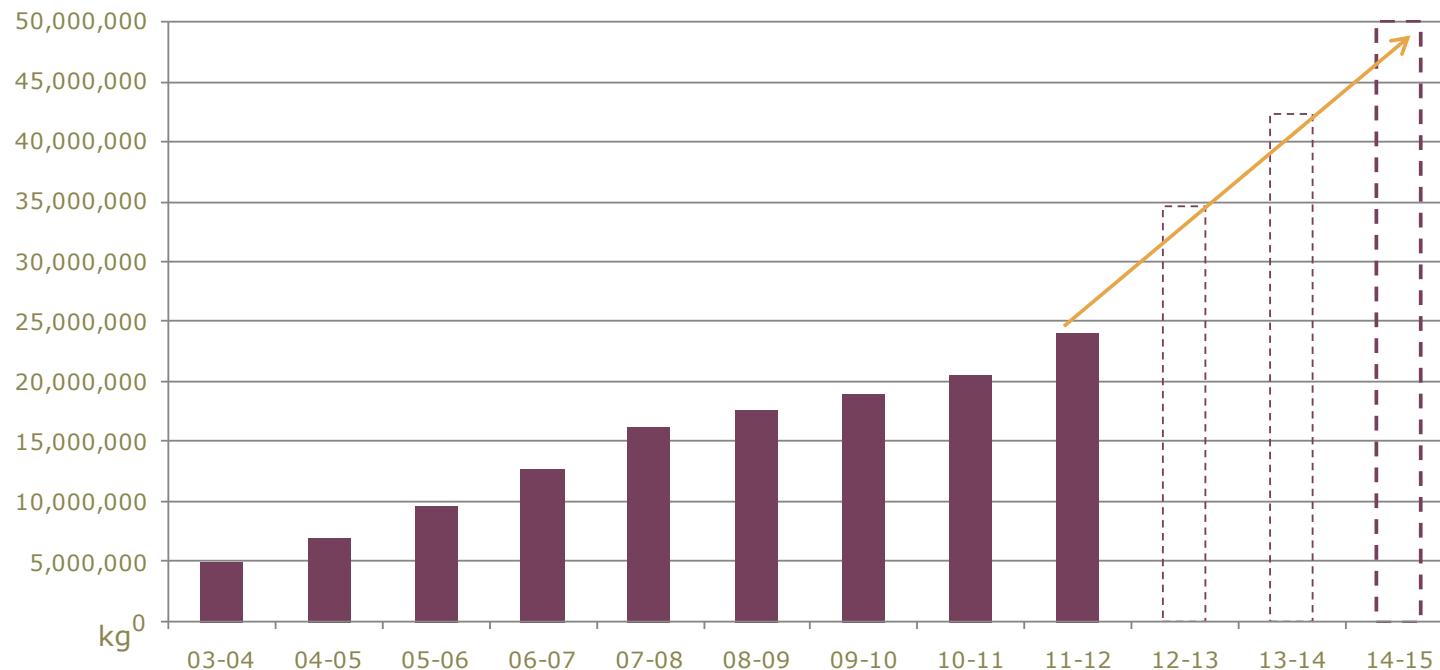


## National Food & Grocery Donors



## National Supporters

# The Challenge



- Last year Foodbank distributed 23.8 million kg
- Helped feed 88,000 people every day
- However, current demand is **50 million kg**



# Facing the Challenge - Foodbank Programs

- Food Rescue
- Collaborative Supply Program
- Milk Program
- Fresh Produce Program
- Egg Program
- Grain Program
- Meat Program
- School Breakfast Program



Farm gate input

# Food Rescue – No waste

- Capture all useable product – reduce waste
  - Short code
  - Surplus / excess stock
  - Deleted items
  - Packaging and labelling issues
  - Out of specification product
  - All pack sizes – no quantity too large or too small
  - Fresh Foods, Groceries, Personal Products & Household Needs
- From the entire supply chain
  - Primary producers
  - Manufacturers
  - Retailers / wholesalers / distributors
- From all production facilities & warehouses



# Collaborative Supply Program

- Ensuring a regular supply of key staple food
- Targeted products include:
  - milk
  - cereal
  - bread
  - canned fruit
  - rice
  - pasta
  - pasta sauce
  - soup
  - canned meals
  - packet meals
  - canned vegetables
  - meat products
- Manufacturer donates production time... input ingredients donated... packaging donated... transport donated...  
\$ donations fund components that can't be fully donated
- Recent success with fresh and UHT milk, cereal, pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned meals, frozen vegetables and packet meal programs





# Uncle Tobys Oats





# Sanitarium Weet-Bix







Rinoldi Pasta



# Leggo's Pasta Sauce







Four N Twenty Meat Pies



# Heinz Hamper Corned Beef







Kraft Macaroni & Cheese





Fresh Milk Launch



# Milk Program

- Number 1 priority item for welfare agencies
- Foodbank never had enough milk in stock
- To meet the demand of the welfare agencies Foodbank needs at least 2 million litres per year
- The Dairy Industry united and guaranteed to supply 1 million litres of fresh milk per year – regular, weekly deliveries
  - Bega Cheese
  - Fonterra
  - Lion Dairy
  - Murray Goulburn
  - Parmalat
  - Warrnambool Cheese & Butter
- Foodbank is now working on the 2<sup>nd</sup> million litres of milk... this time UHT milk



# Fresh Produce Program

- Direct relationships with growers, sheds
- Support of the Produce Marketing Association (PMA)
- Formation of an Industry Support Group
- Establishing sustainable supply solutions for staple items
  - Potatoes
  - Onions
  - Pumpkin
  - Carrots
  - Cabbage
  - Cauliflower
  - Spinach
  - Lettuce
  - Citrus
  - Apples
  - Pears
  - Bananas
- Tax donation receipt provided to all donors



# Egg Program

- Establishing direct relationship with growers
- Support from the Australian Egg Corporation
- Can receive any size in retail packs or bulk quantities
- Distributed for various uses:
  - Food parcels
  - Meal centres
  - Prepared meals
  - School Breakfast Programs
- Tax donation receipt provided to all donors





# Grain Program

- Foodbank needs 3 million kgs of grain p.a.
- Grain used in various collaborative supply programs
  - Pasta
  - Cereal
  - Bread
  - Packaged Flour
- Foodbank has a National Grower Register Number
- Support from GrainCorp and CBH Group to administer
- Simplified process for growers to donate directly to Foodbank
- Tax donation receipt provided to all donors



# Meat Program

- Protein is in extremely short supply to welfare agencies
- Need to develop a sustainable supply model involving all stakeholders:
  - Primary producers / farmers
  - Processors
  - Manufacturers
  - Service suppliers – packaging and transport
- Targeting two products:
  - Sausages
  - Mince / Patties

# School Breakfast Programs

- Supporting over 700 schools nationally
  - Providing 100,000 meals per week
- Foodbank provides support to establish
  - Breakfast Program Tool Kit
- School runs the program
  - Staff, parents and volunteers
- Foodbank provides core list of food items
  - Cereal, Bread, Milk, Spreads, Baked Beans / Spaghetti, Fruit
- Requires ongoing funding
  - Existing program and growth needs to be sustainable





# Summary

- Hunger is a huge, hidden problem in Australia
- There are never enough pallets of food in Foodbank DC's
- Demand for food is growing and is beyond our current supply
- Foodbank and its supporters are working hard to address the need  
Move from 24m kg to 50m kg
- Donations at farm gate are becoming more important
- Foodbank needs the help of farmers to improve the health of hungry Australians
- Can we collectively achieve... "Good Food for All?"

# Contact

## **Greg Warren**

Phone: 0412 368 078

Email: [gregw@foodbank.com.au](mailto:gregw@foodbank.com.au)

Website: [www.foodbank.com.au](http://www.foodbank.com.au)



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Thank you

