



Inspiring your network, leaving a legacy

Having built a career in food and catering the majority of their lives, Todd and Rita Wickner have always been involved at some level in feeding people. Todd explains the origins of his passion for advocacy, “I provided food in the for-profit space to create a living - the beauty is that I am able to carry that forward, change the story, and now I volunteer for a living - and still provide food in the process.” Deeply involved with Feeding Tampa Bay’s holistic mission for some time, the two have been dedicated to giving their time, treasure and voice on an exponential level. Explaining his choice to support our organization, Todd states “When you give your time, you know it is being well-utilized. You get to interact with the team providing the meals, as well as directly with your neighbors in need of food. Consequently, when you intimately know the organization and how effective they are in making those assets work, you can trust every single dollar is being spent well and being put towards others - and that is what it is all about.”



When we began the journey into our Capital Campaign, the two stepped up to co-chair and lead once again. As they listened to the impactful stories of our lead matching gifts, the inspired retirees took it a step further - committing to not only give financially themselves, but to also bring their network into the fold. Todd describes how he networked for our cause, “Having retired and sold my business years ago, one of my partners, Ken Young, was familiar with Feeding Tampa Bay and the important work we are doing. My hope was that through discussing the capital campaign and the opportunities that lie ahead, we could continue the momentum forward by inspiring others to join the cause. Fortunately, Ken agreed and fully matched our gift. In this way, the legacy towards a hunger-free Tampa Bay continues and those who have been fortunate are enabled to make an impact.”

Engaging others does not have to be a daunting process. Should you be inspired to bring your network along for our Capital Campaign giving, here are four quick, helpful tips from Todd and Rita to consider:

- **Make the connection personal over lunch, dinner or coffee**
- **Share your personal passions and commitment to making an impact**
- **Find commonalities around social causes in our community**
- **Inform and educate on the whys and challenges/opportunities ahead**

Our Story Comes to Life

The concept of time can be a funny one: while something can seem so far away now, it really is closer than we realize. How many of us said, ‘wait, it’s already 2022?’ When we’ve been asked about a groundbreaking, we’ve been saying, ‘next year.’ Well, ‘next year’ is now ‘this year.’ While there are no guarantees about any timing on a project like ours, we feel pretty certain, barring something unforeseen, that we’ll be taking that hard hat picture sooner than we realize.

The work on the site is already moving ahead with the army corps of engineers and the city/county to be sure we’re water, sewer and power ready. So much work to be done underground before we go above ground - but that lays the foundation we need. No matter above or below, it’s exciting to make progress. As a way of chronicling our project we’ve begun taking photos for a time-lapse view that we can all look back on for when we get together and say, ‘remember when this was just a dream?’





Honorary Committee Spotlight

Honorary Chair, Mayor Jane Castor, recently hosted our first Facility Expansion Committee in her offices. During this time, a diverse group of community and business leaders, representing financial services, healthcare, agriculture, business, and restaurant/service industries, discussed how they can come alongside our missional efforts towards a hunger-free Tampa Bay. Through important conversation, we determined new areas of focus around implementing initiatives like CEOs Against Hunger, developing business recruitment efforts to new organizations in Tampa, and creating a women's network for philanthropic female engagement.

Become further acquainted with these new efforts and find ways to engage your network by contacting:

Ashley Wickham at awickham@feedingtampabay.org



Our Funding Continues to Grow

GOAL
\$40,000,000

\$24,483,976

dollars committed to ending hunger as of January 28, 2022

Our Committee of Supporters

Honorary Committee

Mayor Jane Castor | City of Tampa
Ana Cruz | Ballard Partners

Ron Christaldi | Shumaker Advisors Florida, LLC

Maryann Ferenc | Mise en Place
Bill Goede | Bank of America

David Pizzo | Florida Blue

Yvette Segura | Comm. Supporter
Randal Collette | Comm. Supporter

Gary Wishnatzki | Wish Farms
Therese Wishnatzki | Wish Farms

Feeding Tampa Bay

Thomas & Lynne Mantz
Kelley & Earl Sims

Capital Campaign Committee

Todd Wickner | Community Supporter
Rita Wickner | Community Supporter

Colleen Chappell | ChappellRoberts
Dan Chappell | St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue

John Auer | Community Supporter
Sheila Auer | Community Supporter

Cammie Chatterton | Bay Food Brokerage

Ron Christaldi | Shumaker Advisors Florida, LLC

Jeff Darrey | Cross Boss Media/Studio 3:16
Sharon Darrey | Community Supporter

Steve Ellis | Publix Super Markets
Sarah Ellis | Community Supporter

Laura Lay | Construction Services, Inc.
Fred Lay | Construction Services, Inc.

Tim Merrick | MetLife
Trish Messina | Mad Mobile

Jeanne Milkey | Milkey Family Foundation
Kevin Milkey | Milkey Family Foundation

Anna Wiand | Community Supporter
Kevin Rudolph | Florida Cancer Specialists & Research Institute

Yvette Segura | Community Supporter
Randal Collette | Community Supporter

Kareem Spratling | Bryant Miller Olive, PA
Tammy Briant Spratling | Community Tampa Bay