



THE
GIVING
KITCHEN

2018
ANNUAL REPORT

**“When you give to others,
you get back double in return.”**

Read Q's story on page 29.



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Co-founder, Spokesperson +
Director of Community Engagement

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Development + Partnerships Director

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LETTER FROM BRYAN

Fourteen months ago I became a father to Elizabeth Reed Bonner Schroeder. She's a good baby. Growing up as the son of two restaurant workers, I assumed I knew how hard it was to raise a family and work in the industry. I had no idea. Being a father really does change everything, especially how much respect I have for my mom and dad (and the patrons of our restaurant who put up with screaming, fussy babies).

That's why my heart broke when I met Erika at Giving Kitchen's office this fall. Erika's daughter was born with arthrogryposis, a condition that impacts her ability to walk. After years of complications, it was time for her to undergo a special surgery in Florida. As a single mother and a food service worker, Erika faced a tough decision: making the trip alongside her daughter or staying behind so she could work to pay her bills. Luckily she didn't have to choose between the two. Erika arrived at Giving Kitchen to pick up the financial support she needed to make sure she could be with her daughter without the fear of eviction or disconnected services.

You made that moment possible. Because you believe in Giving Kitchen, because you support Giving Kitchen, because you care for food service workers in crisis, we were able to help Erika and her family through such a difficult decision. And over the past six years, you've made that moment happen for over 3,905 people like Erika - and at an increasingly high rate.

In the summer of 2018, we celebrated \$2 million in financial assistance provided since our founding. In November 2019, we celebrated giving \$3 million. We've expanded to serve food service workers throughout the state of Georgia, including those who work for food trucks, concessions and catering companies.

We anticipate over 3,500 people asking GK for assistance in 2020. We've grown, but as we've grown, we haven't lost our heart or our fight for a food service community where crisis is met with compassion and care.

Welcome to the fight. You've been here for years, and we hope you'll stand by our side for years to come.

Bryan Schroeder
GK Executive Director

2018

HIGHLIGHTS

WHO WE'VE HELPED

289 Food Service Workers Helped

\$2,051

Average Monthly Income of Food Service Workers Served

653
Household Members Impacted

239
Children Impacted

244
Restaurants Represented

47%  Male

53%  Female



44%
African American

41%
Caucasian

12%
Hispanic

3%
Other

HOW WE'VE HELPED

\$617,115 Given

272 

35 

Types of Crisis:

 **36%**
Illness

 **42%**
Injury

 **5%**
Disaster

 **17%**
Funeral

442 STABILITY NETWORK REFERRALS

50

Pop-Up Doc Attendees at

\$30,600
Value of Services

Top 5 Stability Network Referrals:




1 Financial Assistance


2 Employment Assistance


3 Mental Healthcare


4 Affordable Housing


5 Legal Assistance

232 Stability Network Partners Total

48 Stability Network Partners Added

WHO HAS HELPED

 1,784 =  223
Volunteer Hours Total Staff Days Worked


308 Volunteer Hours


90 Volunteer Hours


52 Volunteer Hours


33 Volunteer Hours


807 Volunteer Hours: Partner Events

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GOURMET



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ELITE



unsükáy

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**Thank You
2018 Donors**

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- 9 Mile Station
- Alma Cocina
- Bold Catering & Design
- Brick Store Pub
- Chai Pani
- Cypress Street Pint & Plate
- Ecco Buckhead
- Ecco Midtown
- La Tavola Trattoria
- LEON's Full Service
- Local Three Kitchen & Bar
- Lure
- Muss & Turner's
- Ruth's Chris Steak House Alpharetta
- Ruth's Chris Steak House Buckhead
- Ruth's Chris Steak House Centennial Park
- Ruth's Chris Steak House Kennesaw
- South City Kitchen Avalon
- South City Kitchen Buckhead
- South City Kitchen Midtown
- South City Kitchen Vinings
- Staplehouse
- Steamhouse Lounge
- Taziki's Mediterranean Café
- The Original El Taco
- Warhorse Investments

FOUNDATIONS

- Aaron's Foundation
- Anonymous
- Atlanta Braves Foundation
- Imlay Foundation
- Inspire Brands Foundation
- Les Dames d'Escoffier Atlanta Chapter
- PGA Tours Charities
- Rollins Foundation

SHIELDS

- \$15,000+*
- John S. Brown Fund
- Nancy & Mark Oswald
- San Martin Family Advised Fund
- Beverly & Richard Sparkmon
- The Taylor Family Foundation

GUARDIANS

- \$9,000-\$14,999*
- Sunshine Family Foundation

DEFENDERS

- \$5,400-\$8,999*
- Karen & Bill Brewster
- Patty & Doug Reid Family Foundation
- James Perschbacher

ALLIES

- \$3,600-\$5,399*
- Marylyn & John Adamski
- Bell Family Foundation for Hope
- Jennifer & Kevin England
- Harold & Nancy Abrams Family Foundation
- Summer Aspen Trust Charitable Giving Fund
- The Hufler Family Foundation
- Annie Westwater & Cormac Eubanks

GK HEROES

- \$1,800-\$3,599*
- Anonymous
- Belle Isle Craft Spirits
- BoccaLupo
- Frank Buonanotte
- Carol & Jim Fleter
- Melissa & Michael Gallagher
- Wendy & Adam Herndon
- John Keller
- Dale Kirkland & Suzanne Brandt

- Christine & Tim Mast
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- The Hughes Family Foundation
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- Emma Zingone

PAID RENT/MORTGAGE

- \$500-\$1,799*
- 82 Westminster Fund
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- Bobbo Jetmundsen Foundation
- Bonnie & Terryll Herron Family Charitable Fund
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\$100-\$499

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JAY PARK

GK App Development Team Volunteer



Weeks after an incredible meal at Staplehouse, I still couldn't shake the feeling of what Giving Kitchen and Staplehouse collectively represented. I had an immediate and visceral attraction to seeing people at the top of their craft using their talents and influence to help those in need, and I needed to learn more.

I consider myself very fortunate to have a career in a field that I care deeply about that also happens to take good care of me financially. When I use that same lens to consider what my life might have been like if I had instead pursued culinary arts, it immediately illuminates the sacrifices I would have made in order to follow that dream. Volunteering my expertise in technology allows me to honor both of these passions and nourishes my growing obsession with food and cooking by sharing the benefits I've reaped with a career in tech with those in the food service industry. Call it fate, call it GK Magic, call it the universe beckoning, but for me it's about gratitude.

I've never met so many people with such unified hearts and purpose. It's not just the grants or the Pop-Up Docs that bring them together. It's the ideals that Giving Kitchen holds to be true which are that crises will be met with compassion and that cycles of abuse must be replaced with networks of support. Being in GK's office surrounded by people who consider themselves ordinary, I can only genuflect at the sincere absence of ego or self-importance by those who have touched thousands of lives in a way that cannot be reduced to utility bills and rent checks. And for that, I am humbled by GK's trust in me to manage the development of their app.

We all climb out of bed every day and go about our work without a second thought given to the types of experiences we each bring to the table. But whether you're in a classroom teaching or in an office programming mobile apps, using the specialized skills that you hone and sharpen every day to help people in need is as close to superpowers as we're ever going to get as human beings.

Jay Park

ParkMobile Director of Mobile & Web Engineering

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Kathleen Wenning
Thomas Wenning

MICHAEL LO

GK Event Partner



After we opened our first restaurant in 2014, we invited restaurant owners and chefs to a ramen party with donated noodles. We sold a few hundred tickets and knew we had to give back to the community, so Giving Kitchen just felt like the perfect choice. It launched something awesome that turned into our annual Atlanta Ramen Fest, and I'm proud of what we've raised through this event over the years for GK.

It's not a secret that the restaurant industry isn't the most profitable - margins are thin and the work is long and hard, but those of us who are in it love it for many unique reasons. One of those reasons is the jobs and opportunities I get to create for my staff to grow.

Giving Kitchen's work helps us enable our staff to live better lives. Over the years, we've personally helped several of our staff apply for financial assistance and assistance when they were dealing with emergencies. GK's staff does it with so much compassion and care. They've also created a great platform for resource sharing and pushed the ball further on discussions about key issues in our industry, including personal wellbeing.

I'm encouraged that so much of GK's revenue goes directly toward programs and that those programs benefit someone you know and interact with every day. As a restaurateur, having GK assist a staff member short term helps me retain them as an employee for the long term. As a diner, your contributions stay local and support the food service industry you all love. It's helping to build that bridge so your favorite bartender, server or cook can focus on returning to work and not get derailed by an emergency hardship. It's the best kind of tip you can leave.

Michael Lo

Korean Wives Hospitality Group President
& Atlanta Ramen Fest Creator

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Connie & Ron Williams
James L. Williams
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SEAN PALANI

GK Volunteer and Pass the Hat Donor



Giving Kitchen is near and dear to my heart. Many food service workers juggle multiple jobs to make ends meet, to put themselves through school or to support their families. GK has made me more appreciative of the resources available to those who work for me, with me or in my industry who wouldn't otherwise have access to them in an emergency. It's reassuring to know someone else is looking out for our employees, as well.

Supporting GK has given me the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people who genuinely care about food service workers - those who wait on us, cook for us and host us. I tell everyone that the Atlanta food community is one of the most tight-knit groups in the country, and I attribute a big part of that to Giving Kitchen for bringing us all closer together. They even bring us together on social media!

The GK Food Service Workers Facebook group has been a lifesaver for so many. What brings me the most joy is how quick the members are to respond to someone in need, whether they need employment, a recommendation or access to mental health resources. It's an invaluable tool for those in our industry. People need to remember our community is small - everyone knows someone, and we are here for each other.

That's why anytime I can spread the GK word, I do. I want people in our food family to know there is an organization with resources and people who care who are here to support you. GK has helped several of my former employees, so spreading the word, volunteering and donating through Pass the Hat is the least I can do. Helping others is easy.

Sean Palani

The Atlanta Guys Dinner Group Founder

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THE SUNSHINES

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When we heard Ryan and Jen Hidingers' story, we wanted to get involved with Giving Kitchen. One life has impacted so many, and we are very fortunate to support charity work through our Sunshine Family Foundation.

We are big believers in living our lives by example and want to teach our children how important it is to give back to our community - both through giving money and time. Matching donations are a big part of how we like to give because it allows us to stretch our foundation dollars by encouraging others to raise money and donate through campaigns like GIVE Atlanta.

Sponsoring events like Pop-Up Doc, which is such a dynamic feeder for GK, furthers our vision of impacting local communities. There are so many food service workers who may not know that GK exists, and Pop-Up Doc is a great introduction to the organization for them. We also believe basic medical care should be available to everyone, so we want to help make that happen!

We have been very impressed with GK's work - you can truly save the life of someone dedicated to serving others. We've been involved with many charities over the years, but Giving Kitchen has truly made us feel like family.

Michael and Maya Sunshine

Sunshine Family Foundation Directors

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Fab Charleston
National Emergency Assistance Summit
Salesforce World Tour Atlanta
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MANDA HUNT

GK Stability Network Partner



I became aware of Giving Kitchen when we both participated in the 2018 GIVE Atlanta campaign and loved our friendly rivalry. While all nonprofits certainly “compete” for donations, at a very basic level, I believe all nonprofits should continually seek to partner however and whenever they can. Ultimately, we are all trying to help. If we can help more together, why wouldn’t we?

The Empty Stocking Fund’s mission is all about helping children in need. While Giving Kitchen’s primary clients are food service workers, in cases where they have children, our missions align.

Because GK’s intake process validates need in a way that aligns with our programming, it was an easy decision to serve GK clients’ children. And if The Empty Stocking Fund can provide school supplies and holiday gifts to children of food service workers in crisis, presumably that frees Giving Kitchen’s team to help them more in other ways.

I would encourage – challenge, even – all nonprofits to partner, collaborate and do more together. Working with Giving Kitchen’s team has been incredibly easy and pleasant. They are always so grateful and appreciative of our support, which is appreciated by us! We look forward to continuing our partnership for years and years to come.

Manda Hunt

The Empty Stocking Fund Executive Director

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BILL RAY

GK Board Member



The entire US Foods family quickly embraced Giving Kitchen's cause during the first Team Hidi. We realized our responsibility to help our industry because the very nature of our business provides a unique opportunity to speak to food service workers every week.

Our relationship with GK is one of the most important and valued partnerships we have at US Foods, so we were proud to become the first company to participate in GK's Hope Distributors program. Educating our customers about how GK can help them aligns perfectly with our company's *We Help You Make It* strategy and core values.

The need for Giving Kitchen is real and immediate, and GK's team is highly skilled at quickly offering the correct resources to make a lasting difference in thousands of food service workers' lives.

I believe supporting GK encompasses what the hospitality industry is known for: sincere, caring individuals committed to taking care of our own. The reality is that those who contribute to this cause get far more out of it than those receiving support.

My wife Lindi and I have developed a very deep and personal relationship with the entire GK community. Their work, passion, humility and commitment to serve is an inspiration for my entire family. It is quite simply the most important work of my career!

Bill Ray

US Foods Mid South Area President

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Botiwalla
Bread & Butterfly
Brick Store Pub
Buttermilk Kitchen
Chai Pani
Colletta
Cypress Street Pint & Plate
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Einstein's
Farm Burger Buckhead
Farm Burger Decatur
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 Mellow Mushroom Athens
 Pulaski Heights BBQ
 Seabear Oyster Bar
 South Kitchen + Bar
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 The Place
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Midway Pub
Performance Food Group
Steinbeck's Ale House
Taziki's Mediterranean Café
The White Bull
Zunzi's

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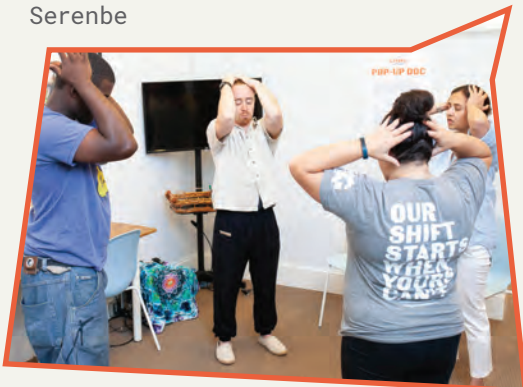
Arches Brewing
Creature Comforts Brewing Co.
Deep Eddy Vodka
Four Roses Bourbon
Full Sail Brewing Company
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 Diesel Filling Station
 East Pole Coffee Company
 El Ponce
 Gas South
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 GF Sports
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King Barbecue
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We have taken great care to accurately assemble this list of 2018 supporters, but we know mistakes happen. Please accept our apologies if we have not reflected your generosity correctly, and email abbey@thegivingkitchen.org so we can update our records. Thank you.

LEQUISHA “Q” JEANTY

GK Client (October 2018)



A family friend was cooking dinner at my apartment and had a pot of water on the stove to boil when the power went out. They didn't think about turning the stove off, so when the power came back on at 3:00am, the pot eventually exploded and caught the ceiling on fire, which spread.

I had worked a 12-hour shift that day, so by the time I got home and went to sleep, I was so tired I didn't wake up when the fire alarm went off. I woke up to everyone in my house screaming, so I opened my bedroom door but smoke engulfed the room. I slammed the door back and thought for a split second. "I'd rather be hurt than dead," so I opened the window and jumped out. Right as I jumped, my neighbor outside ran and caught me.

I had a huge bruise on my knee, but otherwise I wasn't hurt from the jump. I sat on the curb and thought, "What am I going to do?" My entire kitchen was burned, and the fire also went into my living room and burned the wiring to my washer and dryer. The front door was completely melted, and the windows were all busted out.

After the fire department came out, the Red Cross showed up and got us a hotel room for the night. The next day I called my restaurant and let them know what happened. Within hours, my manager called me and told me about Giving Kitchen and helped me start an application. I didn't have much money in savings, so when I heard about GK, it took a major burden off of me so quick.

With some organizations, you have to wait a long time for the help to come, so I thought it was going to be a super long process. But I needed help right then, not several weeks later. The application was straightforward and André called me regularly with updates throughout the process, so I was able to get my financial assistance within days.

Giving Kitchen helped me move back into my place, and I didn't have to worry about my bills for a month – it was so amazing. I was so thankful for the help because it would've just been so hard to start over.

I love how willing GK is to help everyone in this industry – that's what I love about Giving Kitchen.

Lequisha “Q” Jeanty

New Realm Brewing Server

www.givingkitchen.org

ALL
TIME

HIGHLIGHTS

HOW WE'VE HELPED

\$3,076,201

Given to Food Service Workers in Crisis

156

Doctor's Visits
at Pop-Up Doc

3,966

Food Service
Workers Helped

4,881

Children/Family Members
Impacted by Financial Assistance



2,126

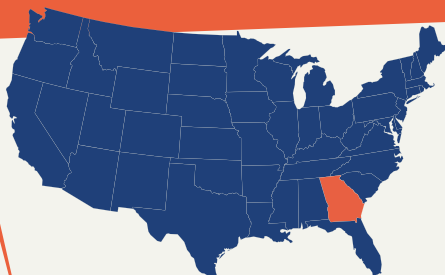
Financial Assistance
Awards Given



1,840

Stability Network
Referrals Made

NOW SERVING



Full State of Georgia



RESTAURANTS



FOOD
TRUCKS

CONCESSIONS

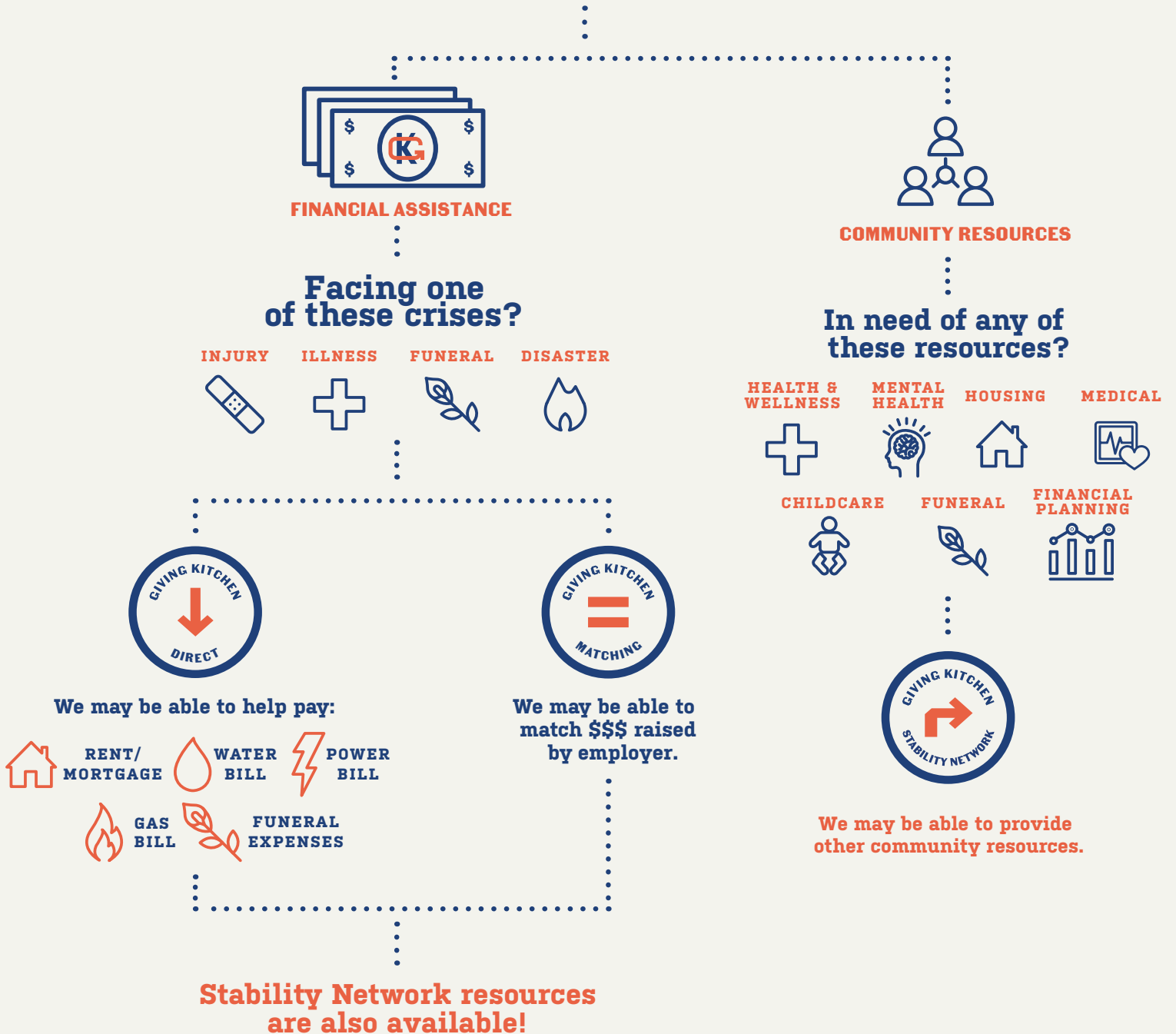


CATERING



HOW GK HELPS

Giving Kitchen provides emergency assistance to food service workers through financial support and a network of community resources in order to create a community where crisis is met with compassion and care.



HOW TO BECOME A GK HERO



What does \$1,800 mean to you? For a Giving Kitchen client, it quite literally means shelter in a time of need - a roof over their head and the proper utilities to feel stable despite the instability that crisis may bring.

Giving Kitchen's promise of stability to the food service industry isn't possible without your help. It's not possible without the hard work and dedication of our staff, volunteers, board and donors. It's not possible without YOU - each and every one of you - becoming a hero for someone else.

Joining our Giving Kitchen hero program - a recurring donation platform - means supporting the growing community of 488,000 food service workers spanning Georgia. It means recognizing that the food service industry, where one in four Americans have worked at some point in their lives, has more than its fair share of people living paycheck to paycheck; more than its fair share of workers in danger of becoming homeless due to one single crisis; and more than its fair share of adversity due to mental health concerns or substance abuse. Becoming a hero means recognizing that you have the power to make a difference in someone's life.

WELCOME, JEN!
CO-FOUNDER, SPOKESPERSON &
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR

So I'm asking you, whether you are a longtime supporter or a newfound friend, to become a GK Hero by making a recurring gift to Giving Kitchen to support the food service community that serves us each and every day. Together, we have the power to give them the critical stability they need.

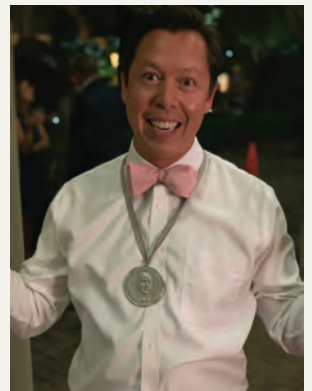
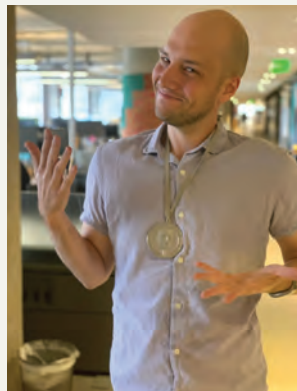
Be a GK Hero today.

With gratitude,

Jen Hiding-Kendrick



SCAN ME TO SIGN UP!





The James Beard Foundation's 2019 Humanitarian of the Year award was presented to Giving Kitchen - not to a person, and not to an organization. To a community. That community is more than our staff members and more than our board members. Giving Kitchen is our donors, partners, supporters, volunteers and recipients. With that in mind - congratulations on your James Beard Award!

Want your photo with GK's James Beard award? Schedule a visit to come see us, or use this cut-out award to tag us in your photo (or email it to info@thegivingkitchen.org) so we can add it to our online collection at givingkitchen.org/gk-jbf.

**THIS
AWARD
IS
FOR
YOU!**

