

# HUNTERS SHARING THE HARVEST

## PENNSYLVANIA'S VENISON DONATION PROGRAM

***Did you know*** there are now 1.5 million families in Pennsylvania in need of food assistance? Many of these families access the resources of local food banks to help put food on the table for themselves and their children. When you donate an average-size deer, plus a small tax deductible deposit, you help us feed up to 200 people. Your generous donation of money will go directly to the costs of processing and storing the meat. Every \$25 donated helps us to process meat for 100 meals. In 2019-2020, HSH coordinated the delivery of 160,445 pounds of venison from 4,110 donated deer that helped to feed those in need. This record amount was reached because people got involved and helped.

Since 1991, the Hunter's Sharing the Harvest (HSH) venison donation program has coordinated the processing and distribution of donated wild game from hunters to hungry people throughout Pennsylvania. This sportsmen-inspired outreach program effectively channels wholesome venison via a network of approved deer processors and food banks down to local charitable organizations in our urban and rural communities. HSH has evolved as a respected partner with deer management practices throughout the Commonwealth, and together with the PA food banks, food pantries and charitable hunger-relief organizations that play a critical role in filling the gaps for families and individuals at risk of hunger; we are able to put food on their tables. The HSH program is a registered 501c3 non-profit charity, with funding and support primarily derived from a mix of public and private sources. It has developed into the preferred nationally-recognized model many other states have replicated. From its inception, HSH was founded as the signature mechanism for Pennsylvania hunters to demonstrate their personal and compassionate decision for helping low-income individuals and families with extra venison. Many wildlife management units

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### GET INVOLVED

...and help HSH feed the hungry in Pennsylvania!

#### Monetary Donations

**GIVE A BUCK FOR THE POT!** You can directly support HSH by participating with our Buck for the Pot campaign.

Monetary donations go directly to the costs of processing and storing the meat. For every \$25 donated, 100 meals can be served to the hungry. Memorial contributions are also an appropriate gift as a way to express personal sentiments while helping to fight hunger.

#### Deer Donations

Hunters, donate a whole deer to one of our participating processors in your county/area at no cost to you. There is no longer a fee or co-pay for dropping off a deer and donating the meat. HSH may occasionally accept elk, moose and caribou meat if handled by a licensed meat processor; please call HSH toll-free 1-866-474-2141 to verify eligibility and for more details.

#### Volunteer

County Coordinators may be needed in your county. Visit our online list to see if one is needed in your area.

#### Sponsor

HSH offers three levels of Corporate/Foundation Sponsorships and four levels of Individual, Club and Business Sponsorships in the HSH program.

\*Monetary donations are tax deductible.

in Pennsylvania offer multiple deer tags, longer seasons and special hunting opportunities that result in extra deer being donated to our program.

Based on this unique concept of sharing, the program's success is due to the cooperation of our processors, our volunteer county coordinators, our board of directors, state legislators, state and local agencies, in concert with our colleagues from a dedicated outdoor news media. All these components work together with a common mission to maximize the best-utilization of a valuable wildlife resource to help others needing food assistance.

HSH remains the most effective social-service program for hunters and wildlife managers to directly make a difference for those in need. More than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians are classified as living beneath the lowest-income poverty level, and as the recent economic downturn escalates, the need and requests for food assistance continues to grow.

In an average hunting season, the HSH program's goal is to channel about 100,000 pounds of processed venison through the state's 21 regional food banks who then redistribute to more than 5,000 local provider charities such as food pantries, missions, homeless shelters, and churches as well as individual families.

Thank you for your help, your understanding and your support as we work toward achieving our mission of delivering wholesome, high protein meat to those in need.



Hunters Sharing the Harvest  
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