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Farm Share event succeeds



Tri-County Community Resources Center Manager Beverly Goodman stands near one of the recipients of food from Farm Share.

Story and Photos

By Jeff M. Hardison © Nov. 26, 2019 at 9:09 a.m.

CHIEFLAND -- Farm Share -- a drive-through food distribution event -- was a resounding success when it happened in Chiefland on Saturday (Nov. 23).



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Mountains of food await distribution Saturday (Nov. 24) to people in Chiefland. (Please remember, in Florida, mountains are not as big as in some other places.)



The back part of the Farm Share trailer shows information.

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Central Florida Electric Cooperative provided a forklift to move pallets of food from a huge semi-trailer this year. Operating the forklift is CFEC's own Miriam Hiers.



Tri-County Community Resources Center Manager Beverly Goodman stands near the emptied Farm Share trailer, moments before food distribution started at 9 a.m. There were people lined up starting as early as 3 a.m. on Saturday (Nov. 23).

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2019 Chiefland Watermelon Queen Shelbi McCall helps gather information from recipients. McCall said this was the first Farm Share event where she has volunteered, and she was very happy to see how this is helping many people enjoy better meals around Thanksgiving time.

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One part of the three-mile long line of cars and other vehicles is seen here.

There were 550 cars and other vehicles collecting the food for 1,764 individuals who

were served, Tri-County Community Resources Center Manager Beverly Goodman said when she was interviewed late Monday (Nov. 26).

The Farm Share organization brought in excess of 40,000 pounds of food that was distributed, thanks to the help of more than volunteers, Goodman said.

She added that this core of volunteers included a team of 10 individuals from Central Florida Electric Cooperative, who partnered with the Tri-County Community Resource Center this year by providing volunteers and a forklift so that Farm Share could bring additional food to the event, Goodman said.

By not transporting the forklift required to offload the food, there was more available weight and space for the semi tractor-trailer that transported the food.

Tri-County Community Resource Center acts as a connecting hub between Tri-County Area (Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties') residents and local resources, TCCRC Manager Goodman said.

"We are always looking for ways to make resources more accessible," she added, "and it's exciting to have opportunities to partner with organizations like the City of Chiefland and Central Florida Electric on events like this one. Farm Share is a great way to deliver large quantities of food to those in need!"

Through the cooperative venture of Farm Share with the Partnership for Strong Families, the Tri-County Community Resources Center, Central Florida Electric Cooperative, the Florida Department of Health of the Tri-County Area, Levy County Emergency Management, the City of Chiefland, and the Chiefland Police Department, the long, long line of vehicles moved smoothly through the process on Saturday.

The staging area was Strickland Park, 2340 N.W. Old Fanning Road in Chiefland.

Tri-County Community Resources Center Manager Goodman brought all of the moving parts together, including the forklift from Central Florida Electric Cooperative to move pallets of food from the huge semi-trailer.

Operating the forklift was CFEC's own Miriam Hiers.

Cars, trucks, SUVs, and vans entered off of U.S. Highway 19 at Northwest 140th Street, creating about a three-mile long line of vehicles.

This event was a drive-through exercise only. There was no parking. People were reminded to not exit their vehicles.

This was free food for anyone with a vehicle who drives up to accept it.

As shown in this July 2019 story, the Catholic Church in Chiefland offers a similar service of low cost food. Click [HERE](#) to see it.