

**GLEANING
RESPONSE FORM**
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Congregation Organization Temple

Name _____

Volunteer Grower Agency Donor

My group would like gleaning registration information.

I am a grower and would like more information about grower involvement in the Gleaning Program.

I represent an agency that serves hungry people and would like information about how to receive gleaned produce.

I want to help support gleaning financially:
Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____

Make check payable to C.R.O.S. Ministries
Your donation may be tax deductible.

Mail to: C.R.O.S. Ministries
301 First Avenue South
Lake Worth, FL 33460



Christians Reaching Out to Society, Inc.
301 First Avenue South
Lake Worth, FL 33460



GLEANING

Gleaning brings together growers, volunteers, and nonprofit agencies to provide for the hungry FRESH produce that would otherwise go to waste.

**Join the gleaning network
...together we can make a difference.**



301 First Avenue South
Lake Worth, FL 33460 • (561) 233-9009 x107
www.crosministries.org

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West Palm Beach, FL
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Gleaning... Harvesting food for our Community

Gleaning is a traditional way of collecting crops from farmers' fields that have been mechanically harvested or are not economically profitable to harvest.

Harvested food is donated to local agencies with feeding programs for homeless, working poor or low-income individuals and families. Within 24 to 48 hours of picking, people in need are eating the fresh produce harvested through gleaning.



THE NEED

- 854 million people are undernourished, approximately 12.6 percent of the estimated world population.¹
- 1 in 3 households with incomes less than or equal to \$35,000 ran out of food before they had money to buy more.²
- 12.2% of Palm Beach County families with children live below the federal poverty level of \$21,200 for a family of four.³
- Grocery costs have jumped 5.1% in 12 months. In fact, the nation is undergoing its worst grocery inflation since the early 1990's.⁴

THE WASTE

The USDA reports that 28% of the total U.S. food supply (approximately 100 billion lbs.) is wasted annually – either due to missed mechanical harvesting or it is not profitable for farmers to harvest. The gleaning program picks produce that would otherwise go to waste and uses it to feed those suffering from hunger in Palm Beach County.

THE GROWERS

The gleaning program is operated solely through the generosity of growers who donate fields of produce. All kinds of fruits and vegetables are accepted. Some growers donate produce they have already harvested. We accept rejected but still wholesome loads of produce through our collaborative partner, the Food Recovery Program.

THE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers provide the needed labor behind gleaning the donated produce. Without them, produce donated by growers will go to waste. A constant supply of volunteers is required to meet the demands of the growing season and harvest time. Gleaning offers a great environment for team building, community service and fun.

1. 2006 United Nation Food and Agriculture report.
2. A Food Security Survey conducted in Palm Beach County in 2004.
3. 2006 American Community Survey
4. New York Times, March 2007.



VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

Groups of any size and all ages are invited to spend 3 to 4 hours in the fields harvesting produce. Children under 12 yrs. old must be accompanied by an adult. Gleaning requires some bending and lifting.

A typical morning of gleaning involves caravanning out to the field to the gleaning site. Groups are debriefed on the process and then turned out into the field to start gleaning.

Gleaning can be a family service day, youth group project, church outreach event or company volunteer outing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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