



# News From Foods Resource Bank

June 2016

## 2016 FRB Annual Gathering—Sandwich, IL, August 5-6

Register today [www.foodsresourcebank.org](http://www.foodsresourcebank.org) or by calling (888) 276-4FRB

### SCHEDULE

**Welcome Dinner** - Friday, August 5 at 5 p.m. at the Sandwich Fairgrounds, 1401 Suydam Road, Sandwich, IL 60548.

Highlights include BBQ, ice cream, music, and a live auction including quilts, representative growing project community baskets, and more.

*If you'd like to donate something to the auction to benefit FRB, fill out the form on the annual gathering page on our website, or call 888-276-4FRB.*

**Annual Gathering** - Saturday, August 6 at the Timber Creek Inn and Convention Center, 3300 Drew Avenue, Sandwich, IL 60548.

Highlights include: an update on the Next 1 Million initiative; presentations by overseas guests from the India-Patharkmah/Umsning and Sierra Leone-West programs; lunch; and afternoon discussions.

**Hotel Reservations** - We've reserved a block of hotel rooms at the Timber Creek Inn & Suites, 3300 Drew Avenue, Sandwich, IL 60548 at the FRB rate of \$129.00 a night. Call (630) 273-6000 by July 6, 2016 to reserve your room.

**Don't forget to register for the gathering at [foodsresourcebank.org](http://foodsresourcebank.org) or by calling (888) 276-4FRB!**

### How can YOU help FRB reach the Next 1 Million?

**By "FRBeing."** This is how Alex Morse, FRB staff, describes what FRB's many volunteers do every day. "FRBeing" mostly involves sharing your FRB story with others and inviting them to be a part of this successful grassroots movement in any way that seems right to them.



Marlin (left) and Gary at the 2015 Annual Gathering

Marlin Hershey, a longtime member of the Waterloo IA growing project and an FRB Field Volunteer, is so passionate about FRB that he invited Gary Broadwater, who farms Marlin's father's land, to come with him to FRB's 2015 annual gathering and "see for himself" what FRB was all about. The impression on Gary was profound: soon thereafter, he'd shared the FRB story with other farmers, and the Preston MN growing project was born.

The success of FRB's Reaching the Next 1 Million initiative -- helping a million more people in the next 7 years -- depends on YOU and your help in building new growing projects, overseas programs, donors, partners and staff.

**In what ways can you "FRBe?"** For starters, how about inviting friends, fellow farmers, or family members to come to FRB's 2016 Annual Gathering? Ask them to "see for themselves," as Gary Broadwater did, how becoming involved could be one of the most meaningful decisions they ever make. To learn more, register for the event, and make reservations, visit FRB's website or call us.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO FRB'S 2016 ANNUAL GATHERING



### Join FRB on an Overseas Trip

Travel can invigorate, renew, restore and educate. On an FRB trip, you can see how farm families work to get ahead despite many kinds of challenges. Visit the Travel page on our website, or call 888-276-4FRB for details.

### UPCOMING TRIPS

**Burkina Faso, Niger &**

**Sierra Leone:**

September 10-October 16, 2016

**Peru:** Fall 2016

**Gaza & the West Bank:**

December 2-16, 2016

**Colombia:** January 2017

**Nepal:** Fall 2016

**Central & East Africa:**

January/February 2017

**Mexico:** Spring 2017

### Invite us to your events!

Do you have an upcoming harvest or growing project event you'd like others to know about? Send the info that we can publish on our website to:

[admin@foodsresourcebank.org](mailto:admin@foodsresourcebank.org)

### FRB is a 4-star charity!

Charity Navigator, a charity watchdog website, gives FRB its top rating! When people ask you about FRB's effectiveness, send them to: [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)



### Planning for the future in the midst of a drought



Food security doesn't happen overnight. It depends on the long process of ag development, which can take years to see a lasting effect. FRB and partners in the Nicaragua Mateare-Carazo program were gratified by the wisdom and foresight of a participant named Eva. During the extended recent drought, Eva has planted an orchard of fruit trees behind her house, and has been using household "gray water" (from bathing, dishes, cleaning) to maintain them.

*Eva said, "No matter when I start, I know it will take four years until the trees bear fruit, so I might as well get started now. It is worth the effort because one day these trees will provide food for my children."*

FRB is grateful that our faithful volunteer communities all over the U.S. are showing their commitment to Reaching The Next 1 Million people by continuing their support even through trying times. Low commodity prices in the U.S. and adverse weather can affect the size of donations from FRB's growing projects from time to time. Yet, like Eva, they know that

fluctuations in markets and weather are cyclical, things will get better, and program communities will be strengthened by their perseverance both today and in the future. Thank you!

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### Smallholder farmers & the Global Food Security Act

Celebrate with FRB the unanimous bipartisan passage of the Global Food Security Act (GFSA) in the US House of Representatives. GFSA, when passed by the Senate and signed into law by the President, makes "Feed the Future" a permanent program. The GFSA is a country-focused, development-focused strategy designed to help hungry and malnourished nations around the world develop smart, long-term, country-specific agriculture policies. It aims to ensure these nations independently meet the nutrition needs of their people.

FRB's Director of Development, Ron DeWeerd, states that, "With passage of the GFSA, we and others can continue to improve Feed the Future based on our practical experience in smallholder ag development. It will allow us to build better partnerships, and make our government and country more effective in efforts to reduce hunger in our world sustainably." Ron offers a special thank-you to all of the Heart of the Hill volunteers who traveled to DC with us this past year to impact decision makers in this landmark legislation!

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### Women & Agriculture: The Road to Global Security

"Women invest 90% of their income in family. If you want global security, you must work for food security; and if you want food security you must work with the women." - *Nora Tobin, executive director of Self-Help International*



Olga Tumax, a former participant in FRB's Guatemala-Totonicapan-Nebaj program, was invited to speak at the World Food Prize Women's Day Celebration in March. Following a keynote address by Iowa Senator Joni Ernst, who said, "Women in agriculture have to deal with many challenges," Olga talked about some difficulties women face in her own community.

*"In Guatemala, most land is owned by men. But with this program and trainings empowering women, we have learned to advocate and gain access to land. The land is still in the name of men in most cases. But now they give us an area where we can work and produce vegetables and build greenhouses."*

Olga went on to describe improvements: "Church World Service and FRB came and helped a group of us women build a greenhouse. No one is harder-working than a mother struggling to feed her family. Now, 30 women are growing food, vegetables and other produce in greenhouses. And we share our expertise and knowledge with other women. Now the men see that we can produce food for family consumption and sell the surplus for a little income. The men come and ask us how we are able to do this. They are learning from women."

Through FRB, its 16 Implementing Organizations, other NGOs around the world and the Global Food Security Act, we can envision a day when women's work will reduce the numbers of hungry and food-insecure people in the world by hundreds of millions.

**Donations gratefully accepted:** Foods Resource Bank, PO Box 5628 Carol Stream, IL 60197-5628

**(888) 276 4FRB**      **foodsresourcebank.org**