

# Compassion-in-Action, Inc. (CnA)

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[www.CnAco.org](http://www.CnAco.org)

a Colorado based, all-volunteer, nonprofit corporation, an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, founded 2017, promoting the simple principle that compassionate behavior, in any form, inclusive to everyone, circles back to become its own reward.

December 31, 2023  
New Year's Eve

The Miracles of Christmas

**Re: CnA's Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals & Cookies for Christmas campaigns... both exceed best expectations, delivering 1,305 pounds of grocery staples, providing 11,808 servings!!**

As December 2023 comes to a closing, with 2024 directly ahead, we want to extend a heartfelt thanks to everyone who stepped-up to help our efforts to feed those in need, especially during the holidays.

## Six Purchases and Two Donation Deliveries, Plus Christmas Day Miracles ...

In the aftermath of six different purchases, during November and December, helped by contributions, and highly discounted various discount strategies, including Ellyn's associate discounts, and subsidized by corporate grants from King Soopers, our all-volunteer, nonprofit made two timely, strategic deliveries:

(1) Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> - delivered 840 bags, cans, jars (in boxes or plastic wrapped trays), totaling 1,050 pounds of rice, beans, canned, diced, tomatoes and peanut butter, containing 8,160 servings, to Salvation Army's Food Pantry, in Colorado Springs. This was part one, under CnA's umbrella campaign called: *Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals*. Our stated goal was to donate 1,000 pounds.

(2) Early on Christmas Day morning, we delivered 20 boxes, containing 240 packages of cookies, weighing 255 pounds, totaling 8,256 much needed desert cookies for SA's Community Meal, that day, and beyond. This donation, containing 3,648 servings, also came under the umbrella of CnA's *Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals, Cookies for Christmas* campaign. Our goal was to donate 200 - 250 pounds.

On the following pages are some pics from various dates and events, from store purchases, to delivery related loading, staging, and final delivery on December 18<sup>th</sup>, to SA's Food Pantry, and on December 25<sup>th</sup>, to SA's Colorado Café, the central hub for serving SA's annual Christmas Day Community Meal from five locations, plus hot meal service to those unable to attend in-person. All are welcome and served with thoughtful respect and attentive inclusion.

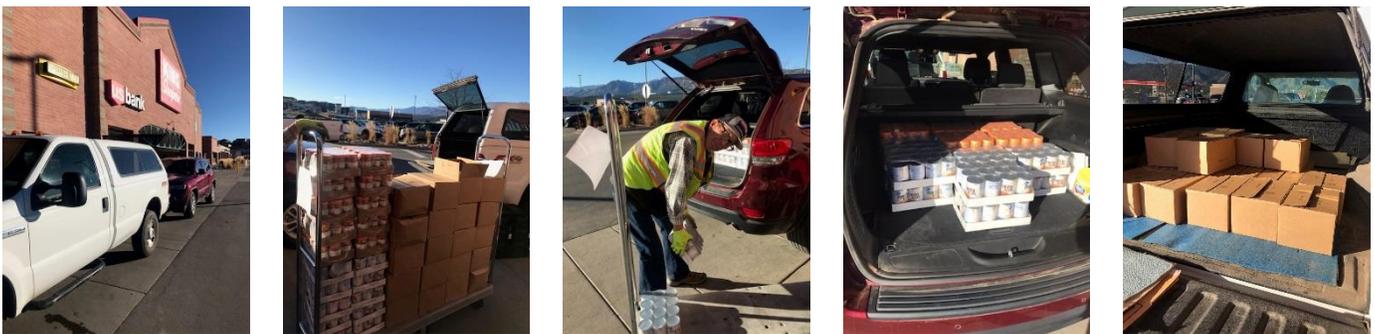
## A special sharing: CnA's Help Us Feed Those in Need - Cookies for Christmas come to the rescue ...

After we finished unloading at Salvation Army's Colorado Springs main facility, about 0730 on Christmas Day morning, SA's Colorado Café's manager, Jorge Granados, (seen in several pics), pointed to a single package of donated cookies, located on a mobile storage rack, saying that this was the only package of cookies on-hand. He was very happy to see our 20 boxes, packed tight with highly desired, versatile, dessert cookies that would provide thousands of servings for that day's, all are welcome, community meal, and beyond, at least for a few more days. This was CnA's second Cookies for Christmas campaign, made even more meaningful knowing just how important our last-minute delivery was to SA, and to the people that would enjoy our cookies. No doubt, for Jorge, our delivery felt with a Christmas miracle.

Thursday, December 7, 2023 - One of Six CnA purchase-related Pickups ...

The five photos directly below share a slice of our experience during one of six purchases for *CnA's Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals & Cookies for Christmas* campaigns. Fortunately, this was a mild early December morning, in front of the King Soopers, Monument store, with vital help loading from King's associate, Lewis, who went above-and-beyond to help. Lewis was just one of several King Sooper associates who gave extra effort, from ordering strategies to help with loading our vehicles.

On this purchase, we secured 240, 2-pound bags of rice, (contained in 20 boxes, loaded into our F250), 10-cases, with 120, 1-pound, jars of peanut butter, and 10-cases, also 120 cans of pinto beans. Our order, of basic staples, totaled 480 items, weighed nearly 720 pounds, and with aggressive use of discounting, including store coupons, Ellyn's associate discount, and corporate grants from King Soopers, we were able to achieve a 37.4% discount for our CnA donors, especially notable for grocery basics that typically have very little markup, and are seldom on sale.



Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, the First of Two Strategic Deliveries ...

On this morning, we delivered 840 bags, cans, jars (in boxes or plastic wrapped trays), totaling 1,050 pounds of rice, beans, canned, diced, tomatoes and peanut butter, containing 8,160 servings, to Salvation Army's Food Pantry, in Colorado Springs. This was under CnA's umbrella campaign called: *Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals*. Our stated goal was to donate 1,000 pounds. As the bottom three pics show, SA'S Food Pantry was in-need of our pre-Christmas delivery, helping them provide vital grocery staples to families, many headed by single women, for their at-home holiday meals.



Beyond Hunger - "Love doesn't discriminate. It doesn't pick and choose. When others flee, Love runs towards."

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas, the Second of Two Strategic Deliveries - Miracles of Christmas ...  
 Departing from Monument Hill, early on Christmas Day morning, our 40-minute trip to Salvation Army's main facility in Colorado Springs, arrived with only a small core staff on-hand. (It was still too early for volunteers.) CnA's 20 boxes contained 240 packages, totaling 8,256 cookies, provided 3,648 servings. Our donation weighed 255 pounds (vs. our goal of 200-250 pounds). This was our second delivery under the umbrella of *CnA's Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals, Cookies for Christmas* campaign.

As shared, after we were unloaded, SA's Jorge Granados, pointed to a single package of donated cookies, saying that this was the only package of cookies on-hand. He was very happy to see our delivery (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> photo from left-to-right), just hours ahead of their community meal; our first Christmas miracle.



Our Second Christmas Miracle - We also delivered another 17 boxes of miscellaneous bakery donations from the King Soopers store in Monument, picked up on Christmas Eve, which we viewed as a Christmas miracle, our second, especially when compared to last year's donation of three boxes. The combination, with CnA's 20 boxes, filled our F250 with 37 boxes of bakery donations, double stacked, front-to-back.



This was our 30<sup>th</sup> year, since 1994, delivering bakery donations, first from the Monument Safeway, then from the Monument King Soopers, when the store opened in 1999, to the nonprofit entity that produced a community meal on Christmas Day, which Salvation Army assumed some 20 +/- years ago, when the previous group folded. Our Christmas Eve pickup, near closing, has always been filled with uncertainty, with most years being overwhelmed by the generous abundance, with our arrival, on Christmas morning being greeted as if we were angels delivering Manna from Heaven. These three, core SA staff, Jorge, Barb and Dennis, were happy to see us, and grateful, not just to us, but to all who helped make it happen.



Extended family - Jorge, Barb & Dennis.

*CnA's Help Us Feed Those in Need - Holiday Meals & Cookies for Christmas* campaigns exceeded our best expectations!! Thanks to the touching generosity of our donors and corporate sponsors, King Soopers and Kroger, our two donation deliveries in December totaled 1.305 pounds of targeted, in-need, food staples to this worthy cause, with a net, discounted, purchase to CnA averaging just over 50 cents on a dollar!!

And while, we are just a small group of volunteers that have come together, giving our time and personal expense, to create Compassion-in-Action, Inc. (CnA), our two holiday-related, donations provided 11,808 servings of food, that helped feed the hungry,

Going beyond, humbled by what can be achieved by even a few people who care, who give for the simple benefit that comes from giving, who want to help make a difference, even when it seems like just a drop in the ocean, consider this:

**Christmas Day, 2023, marked CnA's 7<sup>th</sup> donation effort, and subsequent delivery, of food staples to food pantry and hot meal programs for all in-need; here's our total, for the last 13-months:**

**Total weight of food donated; 3,012 pounds;**

**Total number of servings: 43,440 servings of pies, cookies, peanut butter, jelly, pancake mix, soup, all-purpose flour, cane sugar, pinto and black beans, rice, canned sweet corn and tomatoes;**

**Average, net, cost to CnA, after all discounts and corporate grants: 55.2% which equals a 44.8% reduction off from the regular grocery item prices, on average. Biggest discount was 60%.**

Ahead of closing, want to share that beyond adding The Gathering Place, in Denver, in 2024, (discussed in our recent Gratitude Report), we plan to investigate other food pantry operations to assist, starting with Fr. Dyer's Methodist Church (<https://fatherdyer.church/food-pantry>) in Summit County, Colorado, where CnA is legally based, and in metro Denver. We have also added La Puente, in Alamosa, CO, to *CnA's Help Us Help Those in Need - Essential Clothing & More* campaign. Here's more from their website:

"La Puente Home, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in Colorado's San Luis Valley providing a safety net of services where individuals and families get what they need to stabilize, heal, and ultimately thrive. *With the objective of meeting the needs of the homeless and community members in crisis, La Puente's services both restore and strengthen people's lives, so that they can live independently, with dignity.*" re: <https://lapuentehome.org/about/>

We'll have more to share as events unfold in 2024. It's going to be a very busy, dynamic, year.

We end 2023 grateful to our donors who have helped CnA; we're grateful for our corporate sponsors, King Soopers and Kroger; we're grateful for our nonprofit partners, Salvation Army, and new in 2024, The Gathering Place, La Puente; we're grateful to the people that we are honored to serve, in any way.

Sincerely,

Rii & Ellyn Sabby, volunteers  
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a Colorado based nonprofit  
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with nonprofit outreach efforts in Colorado, throughout the USA, and Globally since 2017.**