

Rotary District 5495

District Grant Final Report

Due April 30, 2022 – Complete at Conclusion of Project

Project Title: Surprise Meals of Hope

Rotary Club of: Surprise & Sun City West

Person Completing this form: Glenn E. Schmitt

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Project Description

1. Briefly describe the project outcomes. What was done (in 100 words or less)? Rotary Club of Surprise & Sun City West led a community event with 95 volunteers to pack meal packages at Ottawa University, packing 25,657 meals, exceed our goal of 25,000 meals. The meals were packed in approximately 2.5 hours.

When (dates) and where (city, state and country) did project activities take place?

Event occurred on Oct. 25, 2025 at Ottawa University (Fiath Arena) Surprise AZ 85374 USA

Who were the beneficiaries? Beneficiaries were persons dealing with food insecurity. Food packets were delivered to the Valley View Community Food Bank, Sun City, AZ.

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project? 19
3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples. Rotarians from the Surprise and Sun City West Club planned and executed this project along with additional fundraising from local churches and community partners. Rotarians from the Peoria North Club, Surprise and Sun City West Club packed the food (along with community members) and cleaned up the site afterwards.
4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project? We packed 25,657 meals that will be distributed through the Valley View Community Food Bank. Jesse Ramirez, founder and president of the non-profit organization, says that in one day he received more than 160 calls on his emergency phone from people desperate for assistance. The food bank is seeing hundreds of clients per day, many of them who have never asked for help before. Food counselors and other agencies are also turning to VVCFB for help.
5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project? Redcution of food insecurity issues. This will probably be an annual Project that will expand to reach even more people.