I write this report at a time where we remain deeply conscious of the state of the South African economy and the adverse impact that this perilous state of affairs continues to have on the poor and marginalised sectors of our society. It is at this time that we are also aware of and grateful to many South Africans locally and abroad who remain conscious of their ability to positively impact the lives of others and who have chosen FoodForward SA to help them reach people in need.

As the South African economy struggles to grow and to absorb new job seekers and drive more people out of poverty; the burden of providing basic requirements for many of our fellow citizens grows. Although the need has grown in 2017 and the dependency on FoodForward SA has grown, so has the generosity and spirit of ordinary South Africans.

**THIS YEAR HAS ALSO BEEN CHARACTERISED BY GROWTH AND CHANGE**

Our key metric, to those who have read these reports before, is always the cost at which FoodForward SA is able to provide a meal to a beneficiary. This year we have been able to reduce our cost per meal from R1,08 last year to R 0,86 cents per meal this year. This is a function of our ability to grow the tonnage of food that was rescued and distributed and reduce the operating cost relative to last year.

I would like to, again, thank our donors and sponsors who make all this possible with their generous donations of time, money and goods. I am also grateful for our staff for the work they continue to do with great vigour and determination and our partners and agencies who offer their time and services pro bono to enable the work that FoodForward SA has committed itself to: “a South Africa without hunger.”

Crispin Sonn
Chairperson: FoodForward SA
I’m inspired by Nelson Mandela’s quote: “What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.” I am blessed to be part of an organisation that engages almost daily with people that follow this philosophy that helping others gives deeper significance to their own lives. Our partnership with caring people and organisations is indeed making a real difference – in fact 14.5 million differences just last year since every meal provided means someone did not go hungry.

WE LIVE IN A COUNTRY WHERE MORE THAN 75% OF OUR TODDLERS ARE FED AN INADEQUATE DIET

This is alarming for a number of reasons, including the impact down the line in terms of slow growth, poor cognitive development, stunting and higher risk of illness. If we fail our vulnerable children, then we fail the country on a grand scale.

To ensure that children are our priority, between 30% and 40% of FoodForward SA’s beneficiaries are children.

We have to get it right here for South Africa to succeed into the future. For many children and adults, securing enough food is a daily struggle for survival.

THIS IS WHY EVERY MEAL MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The name change from FoodBank SA to FoodForward SA surprised many, including ourselves. We were requested by the SA Reserve Bank to do so, citing that the Banking Act only allows commercial banks to use the word ‘bank’ in their name. The new name has however been well received.

While it has been a tough year on many fronts, the year-end results are positive thanks to diligent staff, very good co-operation from our current and new donors and great board involvement. Revenue is up 18% thanks mostly to the National Lottery Commission and FoodBank Foundation funding, while expenditure is only up 8%. Tonnage is up 35% (from 3,347,000 to 4,350,000), translating into 14.5 million meals, compared with 11 million meals the previous year.
MORE MOUTHS FED

We have increased our beneficiary organisations (BOs) modestly (9.8%) compared to the previous year (78%), because we want to ensure that an increased volume of food reaches each BO. The cost per meal has come down by 20% from R1,08 to R0.86; a clear indication that costs are well managed and donated food and non-food grocery volume is increasing steadily.

Facilitating the provision of a meal at only R0.86 makes foodbanking very attractive as a model that provides hunger relief at scale, especially given the current economic climate, and high unemployment, which will continue to see thousands of destitute people needing our support into the future.

OUR MANDELA DAY INITIATIVE

We are undertaking several exciting initiatives in the coming year with various partners, but two are worth mentioning. The first is a partnership with Pick n Pay to introduce a very exciting national initiative – The FoodForward SA Mandela Day Food Drive in July 2017. This campaign will seek to unite the nation towards one common goal – addressing hunger by volunteering their efforts to (a) encourage shoppers to buy and donate food between 14 - 16 July 2017 in Pick n Pay stores across the country and (b) encourage corporates to volunteer their 67 minutes on Mandela Day 18 July 2017 to sort and pack the food. We hope to include all the retailers and millions of South Africans to support this national campaign in years to come.

EMPOWERING WOMEN

The second is the (long-awaited) introduction of our first Women’s Micro Enterprise Programme, where we will select 16 unemployed women, take them through a small business training and mentorship programme and provide them with groceries at a preferential rate for one year, which they will then sell in their respective communities at a mark-up. We are undertaking a journey with these women so that they can become financially independent and undertake economic activities to provide for their families.

The year ahead is bound to be challenging, but also promising. Thank you to all our remarkable staff, our generous partners and donors and our diligent boards for your contributions. The difference that we have made together is certainly significant. Let’s continue to hold hands and make our lives and others’ more meaningful.

Andy Du Plessis
Managing Director
FOODFORWARD SA

A third of all food produced in South Africa is wasted, while more than 14 million people go hungry each day. FoodForward SA (formerly FoodBank SA) is the catalyst that connects a world of waste to a world of need by recovering edible surplus food in the supply chain to address the problem of food insecurity.

In partnership with all the major wholesalers, retailers and manufacturers, our mandate is to collect edible surplus food and non-food groceries, for redistribution to registered beneficiary organisations that offer daily feeding programmes. At least 85% of our beneficiary organisations are involved in education, youth development, women’s empowerment, skills training etc. in addition to their feeding programmes.

OUR VISION

A South Africa without hunger.

OUR MISSION

To reduce hunger in South Africa by safely and cost-effectively securing quality food and making it available to those who need it.
FOOD RECOVERED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Food Recovered (kg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3,347,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4,348,884</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Increased by 1,000,000 kg compared to last year.

MEALS PROVIDED

- **2016:** 11,160,000
- **2017:** 14,500,000
R201,187,500

RAND VALUE OF FOOD AND NON-FOOD GROCERY PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED

**Funds Raised**

R8,404,791,87

**Cost per Meal**

2016 vs 2017

2017: cost per meal decreased by 25% from R1,08 – R0,86

FoodForward SA is able to turn R1 into R13,87 worth of food value per meal.
INCREIBLE INDIVIDUALS

HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS

Signoria Qolani is the founder of Sinethemba Children’s Home which cares for 26 smiling faces between the ages of 1 and 19. The children’s home is based in Port Elizabeth and was founded in 2000.

The mission of the organisation is to instil a greater appreciation and love for education and learning amongst the children at the home, showing them that the best chance at success in life is by getting an education.

As a child, Signoria and her mom had no permanent home and they survived on odd jobs. When her mom was eventually offered fulltime employment as a live-in domestic worker, there was no room for Signoria to live with her, leaving her homeless at the age of 6. Signoria was passed from one foster home to another and ended up running away.

Signoria was finally taken in by a loving family at the age of 17 where she was given the support and encouragement she had been looking for her whole life. Through this family, Signoria met her husband and they are still happily married.

Deeply affected by her past, Signoria started to support children living on the streets by visiting them and providing food. With the support of her husband and others, she has turned a dormant police station into a home for 26 previously homeless children, offering them the love they need and a safe haven for them to grow and develop.
## OUR REACH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES</th>
<th>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARY ORGANISATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2015</strong></td>
<td><strong>2015</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115,000</td>
<td>511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
<td><strong>2016</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Increased by 117.4%*

*Increased by 9.8%*
WHO BENEFITS FROM YOUR PARTNERSHIP?

- Early Childhood Development Centres 26%
- Support Groups 25%
- Shelters 15%
- Orphans and Vulnerable Children 10%
- Aged Care 7%
- Skills Development Programmes 6%
- Schools / Aftercare 1%
- Youth Development 2%
- Health / HIV / AIDS 3%
- Disability Care 5%
NO TURNING BACK

32 year old Andrew Jacobs was raised by his grandparents in Atlantis, a small town in the Western Cape, after losing both his parents. He soon fell into a life of gangsterism, violence, drug abuse and dealing drugs to make ends meet.

In 2012, Andrew was inspired by his sister to change his ways and rise above his circumstances. After numerous attempts to rehabilitate himself and moving from shelter to shelter, he joined the The Ark City of Refuge.

The Ark City of Refuge is unique in its operations and offerings to its beneficiaries, which include life-skills training, a three-year voluntary Bible School certificate and drug and alcohol rehabilitation. The Ark, one of Food Forward SA’s beneficiary organisations, is the largest of its kind and since its inception has assisted over 35 000 people in need.

Whilst in the care of The Ark, Andrew was an active volunteer at FoodForward SA’s Cape Town warehouse. Seeing the potential in Andrew and dedication he showed in his tasks, FoodForward SA offered Andrew a fulltime position as a general worker in our Cape Town warehouse. Andrew is now fully rehabilitated and engaged to Joline, whom he met in 2015. His baby girl recently celebrated her first birthday, and as a proud father, he is looking forward to nurturing her and providing for his family.

Andrew says that “the road to recovery is long, but I believe that everything comes in good time.” He started this incredibly brave journey 5 years ago and is never turning back.
In an effort to reduce the cost of foodbanking while streamlining processes to increase efficiency, FoodForward SA introduced the Foodbanking Platform. The Foodbanking Platform technology took a year to develop, but was well worth the effort and cost.

This innovative piece of technology’s key functions include:

- Housing virtual foodbanking, effectively connecting our beneficiary organisations with participating retail stores to recover food directly, even in distant rural areas.
- Managing our database of 600 beneficiary organisations.
- Streamlining the beneficiary organisations application process to reduce the accompanying administration associated with this.
- An offline assessment form for vetting new applicants.
- An offline form for assessments of existing beneficiary organisations to ensure that the food reaches the intended beneficiaries.
- Accurate and timeous reporting for the food donors and beneficiary organisations.

The new platform has reduced our administrative burden significantly, increased reporting and will exponentially increase the amount of surplus food that can be recovered at retail stores.
LOOKING FORWARD

BONHAPPI-T

Committed to helping in the fight against hunger, online store Bonhappi-T has facilitated the provision of over 23,500 meals for the less fortunate through the sale of their t-shirts. Bonhappi-T was launched in August 2016 with the aim of selling the funkiest t-shirts to help raise funds for FoodForward SA.

For every t-shirt sold, a portion of the proceeds are donated to FoodForward SA, which will provide enough meals to feed a person for a month. The shirts are good quality, stylish and showcase a variety of inspirational messages. They’re also great as gifts for family and friends who will be chuffed to know that their gift has fed a hungry tummy.

VOLUNTEERISM

We have amazing corporate partners that support the work we do in a very unique way – by encouraging their staff to volunteer at our warehouses and get involved in the day to day operations of our warehouses by sorting, defacing and packing food, getting it ready for distribution to our beneficiary organisations.

Thank you to companies who sent staff members, including Unitrans who sends a team of volunteers 3 times a month, Sage, Native VML and UPS.
Pick n Pay and the Ackerman family are one of FoodForward SA’s longest standing partnerships, playing a vital role in our food recovery programme. During the 2017 financial year Pick n Pay donated 2,178,265 kg of groceries which amounts to 50% of our total tonnage.

Pick n Pay also enables their customers to support us via their SmartShopper programme, where customers can choose to donate their SmartShopper points to FoodForward SA. During the 2017 financial year their shoppers allowed us to facilitate the provision of 114,827 meals.

The partnership with Shoprite and Checkers has grown to become a crucial one for FoodForward SA. They have shown their unwavering commitment to the fight against hunger by financially contributing to the development of the Virtual Foodbanking Platform, allocating a monthly procurement budget to FoodForward SA to allow us to purchase non-perishable nutritious groceries and donating 261,094 kg of surplus groceries during the 2017 financial year.

Shoprite and Checkers selected FoodForward SA as a beneficiary of their #ActForChange campaign which ran for a three month period, encouraging their customers to make a financial contribution at till points. Their customers’ generosity allowed us to facilitate the provision of 301,378 meals.
To help address the growing problem of hunger in Rustenburg, Glencore has partnered with FoodForward SA for over 5 years now, by fully covering the FoodForward SA Rustenburg branch costs, allowing us to provide vital food to 29 beneficiary organisations who in turn feed 1,766 hungry people daily.

A partner since 2009, Food Lover’s Market donates surplus fruit and vegetables which play a vital role in providing a nutritious variety of food to our beneficiary organisations as well as donating R50,000 worth of quality fruit and vegetables on a monthly basis.

Food Lover’s Market donated 165,901 kg of food during the 2017 financial year.
DONATIONS IN-KIND

Mandela Day:
Libra Vision, Linde Material Handling SA
Food Lover’s Market

Good Food and Wine Show stand:
Fiera Milano Exhibitions Africa

Pro bono Service Providers:
EMTS Group, Hero, J. Walter Thompson, Werksmans Attorneys, Bowman Gilfillan, Norton Rose Fulbright

Forklift Truck Sponsorship:
Linde Material Handling SA
PARTNER WITH US

JOIN THE FOOD RECOVERY REVOLUTION!

Together with FoodForward SA you can make a real difference in the lives of hungry South Africans.

Here’s how you can get involved:

1. **Financial & Food donations**

FoodForward SA relies heavily on financial sponsorship and food donations. To become a food or financial partner and help us address hunger, please contact us.

2. **Host your own food drive**

We encourage companies, schools and individuals across the country to get involved and host their own food drives. Collect non-perishable food items and donate them to your nearest FoodForward SA branch – every donation makes an impact in the lives of those less fortunate.
3. Sponsor a beneficiary organisation

Introduced in 2015 and growing in popularity amongst corporate donors across South Africa, the Beneficiary Organisation Sponsorship Programme gives companies the opportunity to ‘adopt’ one or more of the organisations supported by FoodForward SA. As we support many types of organisations, this programme allows companies to direct their funding towards an organisation that fits their focus or nearby organisations that they can visit and develop long-term relationships with.

4. Volunteer

As an individual or group you can volunteer at our various fun annual events or volunteer in our warehouses assisting with sorting and packing food parcels for our beneficiary organisations.

5. Offer your services

Connect with us if you have special skills to offer, like writing, photography and graphic design and want to put them to even greater use by helping us out.
For more information, please contact us at

foodforwardsa.org
info@foodforwardsa.org
021 531 5670

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
@FoodForward SA

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