FORT WORTH, Texas — Since the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic hit, American Airlines has donated more than half a million pounds of food to communities in need. A surplus of food was sitting in American Airlines facilities in the United States and abroad just a few weeks ago. To ensure the product would not go to waste, the airline used the opportunity to support food banks, nonprofit organizations, schools and other groups that are fighting against food insecurity, including the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

Staff members at the Los Angeles LGBT Center opened a Pride Pantry to help the those who were lacking access to food. On May 29, American donated granola bars; pretzels; orange juice; and power bites boxes that wheat thins, asiago cheese spread, cliff chocolate chip bar, almonds, fruit snacks, and a Milano cookie; and orange juice to help stock the pantry shelves. In total, American donated more than 11,000 lbs. of food to the organization.

Los Angeles LGBT Center’s Director of Culinary Training and Operations Nick Panepinto said the donations will make a huge impact on the community and will help provide them resources that they otherwise would not have.

“Many of our clients and community members are experiencing food insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,” he said. “Thanks to partners like American Airlines, the Center’s Pride Pantry is now open and able to help nourish LGBTQ people with food and compassion.”
Food banks are seeing higher volumes of people due to the financial hardships that have hit homes all over the world, making many families reliant on outside resources for help. Meals have also been provided to people who are serving their communities. Since the first donation made March 27, American has donated more than 420,000 meals to nearly 30 different organizations.

Banner Health in Phoenix received a donation from American to support hospital workers.

“We are grateful to American Airlines for supporting Banner Health’s frontline workers as they care for patients during this pandemic,” said Andy Kramer Petersen, Banner Health Foundation’s President and CEO. “As Arizona’s largest health care provider, Banner is working diligently to respond to escalating health care needs while keeping our employees safe and supported. These acts of kindness from businesses like American Airlines remind our teams how much the community respects them and appreciates their hard work and sacrifices.”

Other U.S. cities, including Chicago, Dallas and Philadelphia, and international cities, such as Budapest, Hong Kong, London and Paris, have also received donations.

AMERICAN DONATES 500,000 LBS. OF FOOD

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, American Airlines has donated more than 500,000 lbs. of unused food items to nonprofit organizations around the world. Valued at more than $1 million, the food items are filling the depleted shelves of facilities that are facing shortages due to an increase in demand.

The Los Angeles LGBT Center staff smiled as they showed off some of the donations they received from American.

Let Good Take Flight
American Airlines is committed to caring for people on life’s journey and remains dedicated to addressing the needs of different communities affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In cooperation with its generous customers, American has raised more than $3 million to support the American Red Cross and its volunteers who are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Supply kits have been provided to the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City; Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston; and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, to support medical professionals on the frontlines. American has provided thousands of care packages to military bases to be shared with troops who are quarantined after returning from deployment. As a result of excess inventory due to a reduced flying schedule, American has donated more than 200 tons of food to food banks globally. American team members at multiple locations, including Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), Miami International Airport (MIA), Frankfurt am Main Airport (FRA) and Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW), are...
sewing masks for their coworkers and members of the community. The airline also worked with the U.S. Department of State to operate 88 repatriation flights to bring more than 8,000 U.S. citizens home from abroad. American collected $1.2 million through UNICEF’s Change for Good program in 2019 and recently allocated $460,000 of those funds to support COVID-19 relief efforts in Latin America. American continues to operate cargo-only flights, transporting necessary supplies, including personal protective equipment, to the frontlines of the COVID-19 effort.

About American Airlines Group
American’s purpose is to care for people on life’s journey. Shares of American Airlines Group Inc. trade on Nasdaq under the ticker symbol AAL and the company’s stock is included in the S&P 500. Learn more about what’s happening at American by visiting news.aa.com and connect with American on Twitter @AmericanAir and at Facebook.com/AmericanAirlines.