

Foot Notes

“Food on Foot turns tax burdens into tax payers.”

Volume 7, Issue 6

952 Consecutive Weeks

June 2014

When One Door Closes, Another Opens

By Rachel Roberts, WFF Program Director



John W. — Graduate

For over eighteen years, Food on Foot (FOF) has sought to create a community of compassion within the harsh environment of Los Angeles, CA. The Work for Food (WFF) participants, the staff, the volunteers, and the donors are all connected by the desire to help others. Through this community, FOF's participants are afforded an opportunity to get back on their feet so that they may give back to the community that has supported them. Our \$98 Club members are essential to helping change the lives of the WFF participants. Mr. Greg Perlman is one such donor that helped change a life.

On December 31, 2013, Sisley Italian Kitchen closed and one of Food on Foot's graduates found himself again unemployed. John W. first came to Food on Foot in July 2011. John later graduated the WFF program in March 2013 while working as a busboy at Sisley Italian Kitchen. Mr. Perlman, having volunteered one Sunday when John was speaking, became a regular customer at Sisley Italian Kitchen. Once the restaurant closed and John was in need of employment, Mr. Perlman

sought John for a position with his company. John believes that Mr. Perlman saw his work ethic, positive attitude, and consistency as being worthy of joining his employees.

John says that FOF has changed his life. "I used to be independent to a fault and I've learned that it's okay and necessary to have people help you." If John had not been employed at Sisley Italian Kitchen, he would have not received the opportunity to work with PK Management. John says that his new job offers better hours and that he has more responsibility. He says, "It makes a big difference when you have a supervisor who trusts you and I'm much more mobile in this position than I was before."

John is finding himself thankful for the continued support of the FOF community as he begins a new job and moves into a new apartment. "The volunteers and donors really keep [FOF] going and I am so grateful that volunteers continue to provide opportunities for the WFF participants to work. It's changing people's lives," he says.

Through the ups and downs of unemployment, from Texas to California, John says that he remains encouraged. By keeping a positive attitude, believing in himself, and surrounding himself with positive people, he is able to hold his head high and can focus on being a good father to his children.

“We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand.”

~ Randy Pausch

Please Volunteer!

**Welcome Aboard
to Our Newest
\$98 Club Members!**

MAY (cont'd)

Arthur Abrantes
Monica Evangelist
Daniel Young

JUNE

Gina DeRosa
Andrew Roffe

www.foodonfoot.org

**\$98 CLUB
MEMBERS
ARE INVITED
TO WITNESS
THE WFF
PROGRAM**

\$98 Club members are encouraged to experience our unique "Work for Food" program any Sunday from 11:30am-1:00pm and see how we build the confidence levels of our program participants — the Green Shirts!

If you'd like to visit, please call us in advance at (310) 860-0022 as we limit the number of guests.

www.foodonfoot.org