

National Philoptochos Society 2016-2018 Committee Report



Feed the Hungry

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Much has happened since the National Feed the Hungry program began in October 2014. Goals have been met *and* surpassed. Philoptochos won a national award! Chapters across the country began and/or expanded their programs to feed those in need, and Communities have worked together and become teams because of this outreach program.

In June 2017, the Feeding Children Everywhere organization honored National Philoptochos with its inaugural Hunger Hero Award in the Outstanding Faith-Based Organization category. As National Philoptochos Feed the Hungry Chair, I was honored to attend the awards presentation, which took place in Orlando, Florida, with Second Vice President, Evangeline Scurtis. It was humbling to be at this event, where all those being honored had done so much for those less fortunate.

After surpassing our goal of providing 250,000 meals for Convention 2016 and providing more than 700,000 meals, our national president decided that a new challenge needed to be set. Well, she went big and challenged the chapters across the country to provide **one million** meals from the period following the 2016 Convention to the next Convention – July 2018. President Logus knew that many Philoptochos chapters across the country already had programs to feed those in need in their area, and that others were embracing this much needed outreach, so she felt that this new goal was attainable!

If you read the last edition of the Philanthropy Witness, you saw that by May 2018, we had provided over 900,000 meals. Who could have anticipated that response? Obviously, National Philoptochos President Maria Logus did! She had faith in Philoptochos women! Now two questions remain- was the goal met, and if it was, which chapter provided the millionth meal? The chapter as well as the **grand total** will be revealed at the National Philoptochos Biennial Convention in Boston this July along with photos and experiences from our chapters participating in this initiative!

Another exciting event taking place in Boston will be a meal-packaging event for *Rise Against Hunger* in partnership with the delegates of the Clergy Laity Congress. On Thursday morning, July 6, the Boston Marriot Copley Place will be the venue where Philoptochos delegates **together** with Clergy Laity delegates will package over **10,000 healthy meals!** In 2 hours filled with work, music and camaraderie, the delegates will measure, bag, seal and box 4 ingredients (rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a micronutrient mix that includes 23 essential vitamins and minerals) for a total of more than 10,000 meals to feed hungry people. What a way to give back for all that God has blessed us with!

We would love for you to join us in Boston and participate in packaging these healthy meals. Be sure to sign up ahead of time online at the site below, or at the Philoptochos Registration booth. Come, work, socialize with fellow delegates, have fun and make a difference!!

If you would like to donate towards the cost of the meals (25¢ per meal) or sign up to volunteer to package the meals at the Convention in Boston, please go to: <http://events.stophungernow.org/GOLPS>. **Please join us in any way you can**