

# 2017 YEAR IN

## **WE ARE THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET**

Iron Gate's mission is woven into the fabric of our social safety net. We feed people without restriction or judgement. In 2017, we learned that more than half of our grocery pantry guests are truly using Iron Gate for emergencies with 56% of guests coming only once in 12 months. Thanks to your support, we were able to be there for these families when they were in crisis. While we do have some who come to our community meal regularly, we often hear from guests that the home-cooked meals they receive from Iron Gate allow them to stretch their money further, making it possible for them to get back on their feet. Thank you for helping make sure Iron Gate can keep feeding Tulsa's hungry. In 2017, Iron Gate searched for a new home and weathered legal challenges, but nothing distracted us from our mission. With the help of our generous supporters and tireless volunteers, we kept feeding the hungry of Tulsa every single day.



They come for the meal, but they leave with so much more. So often we hear, "I got a job," or "I finally registered for social security," or "I'm getting my own place!" Our guests share their ups and downs with us, and we see them through it all with a plate of home-cooked food and a kind word. Our mission is simple: to feed people every day. But the nourishment doesn't end when the plates are clean. Iron Gate is a safe space and an avenue for support. We partner with Family & Children Services Homeless Outreach Team, Veterans Association Homeless Program, Indian Health Care Resource Center, and the Mental Health Association to provide guests with the resources they need to improve their lives. In 2017, we added a partnership with the Tulsa City- County Library to bring the joy of reading to our guests. The Bookmobile stops at Iron Gate once a month to serve our guests. And the Tulsa Symphony is filling the Iron Gate dining room with music once a month, providing our guests with the soothing sounds of classics and pop favorites.

# ANNUAL REVIEW



Provided emergency groceries to

**11,936**

households

**\$265,796**

value of 2017 in-kind

donations including

more than

**137,755**

pounds of food

from our partners

and supporters

**209,991**

The number of meals served during the community meal

**1,370**

The number of people who volunteered at Iron Gate in 2017

**32,751**

The number of people fed by our emergency grocery pantry

**8,316**

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER HOURS DURING 2017

**14,143**

The number of Kids Packs given to the kids who visit Iron Gate

**\$200,748.24**

THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS TO IRON GATE IN 2017

About half of the food we serve comes from our partnership with the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. In 2017, the Food Bank provided **107,755** pounds of free food to Iron Gate, including a variety of nutritious staples and fresh produce. Additionally, dozens of faith communities, community organizations, and businesses also provided hundreds of pounds of food through canned food drives to help keep our pantry full.