

# CACTUS CARES ANNUAL REPORT

### What is Cactus Cares?

Cactus Cares is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, thoughtfully founded, underwritten and supported by the 100% employee-owned Cactus Feeders

#### Mission

Cactus Cares is a 501(c)(3) non-profit committed to feeding a hungry world, starting with family, friends, and neighbors in our own communities across the United States. We collaborate with local-level foundations and institutions to

ensure a more sustainable source of food for the long-term. Whether it's providing ongoing support for local food pantries, direct donations of beef and pork, setting up and facilitating grants and scholarships for college or tech-bound youth, or even mentoring others to be better leaders in their own communities, tangibly improving the well-being of those we serve is at the core of our care.

#### **Values**

Within our local communities, Cactus Cares focuses on four pillars of support: Hunger Relief, Scholarships & Education, Leadership, and Renewal.

**Impact Since 2020** 



175,000 lbs. donated

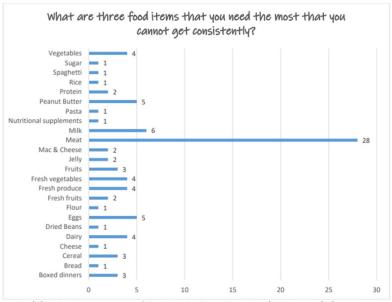


700,000 servings donated



60,000 families reached





13 did not answer or are able to get what they need. 31 provided answers. The above chart indicates the number of times an item was listed within those 31 organizations' answers.





### Why do we focus on providing meat?

A recent survey by the Mary E. Bivins Foundation found that 28 of 31 food pantries surveyed said that meat protein was one of the top three food items that they need the most that they cannot get consistently. Cactus Cares works to build a consistent protein supply for these food pantries. While we feel like we have made great strides in fighting this problem over the past few years, there is still a lot of work left to do to make sure that everyone in our communities has access to a consistent supply of meat. This is why we will continue to focus on growing our services in 2024 including expanding our P.O.W.E.R. Program.



# Executive Director's Letter

### Dear Stakeholders, Gratitude

Looking back on 2023 only one word can truly summarize Cactus Cares – gratitude. We are incredibly thankful to be able to work every day to alleviate hunger starting in our own communities. This has continually provided opportunities for us to work in each of the communities we provide meat to and see the day-to-day impact hunger can have on people. Overall, we want to express our most sincere thanks to all those who have supported us throughout the year.

We would be nowhere without our donors. Our generous donors make our work possible through their willingness to give. We are thrilled to have more than 350 donors throughout the year including Cactus Feeders and Cactus Family Farms employees who continue to surpass our expectations. We had over 25 employees participate in our Pounds of Pork campaign which allowed us to donate over 625 pork loins to those in our local communities.

One of our most powerful donations is our volunteers' willingness to donate their time. Without our volunteers' unwavering support, we would not



have been able to pull together meals for those in Perryton after the tornado struck. This natural disaster was a strong reminder of why we do what we do, because hunger is never planned. Thanks to those who assisted us we were able to serve over 1,000 meals to those devasted by the storm.

Our volunteers across the country who consistently give up time to roll up their sleeves and help is a huge part of why the Snak-Kit program has been such a success. The monthly packing nights give 720 kids a bag to bring home to alleviate hunger over each weekend.

We know we must grow to continue spreading our impact on our community and our world. Our fundraisers have grown traction and produced record funds for the year. The third annual Amarillo golf tournament tripled funds



# Executive Director's Letter

from the inaugural year thanks to all those who volunteered and/or participated. We expanded our fundraising by hosting an inaugural golf tournament in lowa and were blown away by the results. Each event allows us to not only grow our funds and our donations but our brand which gives us countless more opportunities to expand partnerships.

Our POWER program is a result of our brand expansion. Working with eight universities has given us 36 more opportunities and organizations to give meat donations across our country. The unique piece of this program is how we can multiply the contributions to help not only feed hungry college students but support students studying agriculture across the nation. Some of our highlights from the POWER program include working with West Texas A&M to donate 17,000 pounds of meat in the Canyon & Amarillo area. Each organization served was handpicked by an employee owner. Another important highlight is the Oklahoma Collegiate Cattle-Women's t-shirt fundraiser where they partnered with the OSU baseball team to host an Eat Beef baseball game. All the proceeds from the limited-edition shirts went to feed those in the Stillwater community. We are grateful to see the growth Cactus Cares has



achieved over the years and are excited to continue expanding.

Finally, we are grateful in our ability to give. Not many people's job is so focused on simple generosity. Backed by our mission to feed a hungry world, we have worked to provide 175,000 pounds of meat or 700,000 servings to 60,000 families since 2020. We don't stop at giving meals but also give students opportunities to grow by giving \$60,000 in scholarships to 43 students of Cactus Feeders' employees.

Our greatest gift is our ability to give, and it is one we don't take lightly. We are grateful for the work we've been able to accomplish over this past year and are even more grateful to expand our goals for 2024 thanks to the support we have received. Thank you!

### 3rd Annual Amarillo **Golf Tournament**



Save the Date: August 8th, 2024

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Cactus Cares Amarillo Golf Tournament! Our work wouldn't be possible without our generous sponsors! We hope to see all of you again in 2024!

A huge thank you to our 2023 Cactus Cares **Golf Tournament Title Sponsors:** 







RAMP + SWEET 3RAN

### 3rd Annual Amarillo **Golf Tournament**









Thanks to the community's generous support we raised over \$62,000 to fight food insecurity across the Texas Panhandle!

# hank You! SPONSORS































### BBQ & Brew at the Ballpark

### Cactus Cares Participates in Inaugural BBQ & Brew Contest in Des Moines

On July 15th, Cactus Cares was honored to be the charity selected for the Inaugural BBQ & Brew at the Ballpark in Des Moines. This BBQ contest was hosted by the Iowa Cubs & the Iowa Pork Producers Association. Cactus Cares hosted the People's Choice portion of the BBQ contest. Each of the 29 competitors present cooked pork butts that were available to the public for tasting. The public then voted on which pulled pork they preferred by donating dollars to their favorite team. All dollars raised went to Cactus Cares to purchase pork for local food pantries. Together we raised over \$3,500! The winner of this year's





People's Choice Award was Matty Mack's BBQ. As part of their prize, they won a \$1,500 donation of ground pork to the feeding charity of their choice! Matty Mack's selected the Food Bank of Iowa in Ottumwa to receive their ground pork donation.

Congratulations also to Birds BBQ for being the Reserve Champion of this year's People's Choice Award and winning a \$1,000 donation of ground pork to the feeding charity of their choice. They selected the Boys & Girls Club of Central Iowa to receive their donation.

In August, we were proud to deliver the donations to these two outstanding groups with our People's Choice Award winners!

### Perryton Tornado Response

Thank you to all of our cattle industry partners who helped us serve multiple meals in Perryton after a tornado devastated the community in June! Thanks to their generous support, we were able to serve over 1,000 burgers & brats in the community immediately after the tornado & fajitas the week after.











# Inaugural Iowa GolfTournament

Save the Date: September 12th, 2024

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Inaugural Iowa Golf Tournament on September 21st!
Thanks to your generous support we were able to raise over \$44,000 to help fight food insecurity in Iowa!





















































### Inaugural Iowa Golf Tournament

A huge thank you to our 2023 Cactus Cares Golf Tournament Title Sponsors:







Thank you to TechMix and the Iowa State Block & Bridle Club for making sure that no one went hungry at our Iowa tournament! We started the day by providing appetizers including candied bacon, jalapeno poppers, shotgun shells, and bacon wrapped sausage! These appetizers were delivered to golfers around the course during the round. Then at the conclusion of the tournament, TechMix served a delicious pork meal with all the fixings!







### **SNAK-KIT**

Snak-Kit is a local organization committed to providing weekend food items to help decrease hunger, so school-age children can focus on their learning.

Located in Manning, South Carolina, Snak-Kit was founded in 2019 in order to help alleviate weekend hunger within the local school district. Our investment over the past few years has enabled Snak-Kit to grow the number of children receiving weekend food bags from 25 kids per week to 720 kids per week. Our goal is to continue to grow this program to expand to support additional school-age children in need within Clarendon County! In 2024, one of Snak-Kit's goals is to continue to grow opportunities for the public to get involved.

In 2021, we released the branding tagline for programs like Snak-Kit as "Powered by Cactus Cares" look for this tagline in 2024 as we continue to grow programs across the country.









#### Get Involved!

Help us serve the students of Clarendon County by getting involved with Snak-Kits!

Here are a few options for how you can get involved:

- Donate now by scanning the QR code below. For as little as \$5 you can supply a child in Clarendon County with a bag of food for the weekend.
- Volunteer for one of our packing nights! Packing nights occur once a month at Home Branch Baptist Church!
   Contact snakkit4schools@gmail.com for the latest packing information!

## Thank you for your generous support!



### **Snak-Kit Donors**

Thank you to all of the generous supporters in Clarendon County who have stepped up over the past year to support Snak-Kits! Whether it is a monetary donation or coming to pack bags with us each month, Snak-Kits would not exist without your generosity!



Bank of Clarendon

Thank you to the Bank of Clarendon for generously supporting our Snak-Kit Program in 2023! We appreciate both your monetary support & all of the volunteers that have come and packed bags each month with us!



Duke Energy

Thank you to Duke Energy for their generous support of our Snak-Kit program! To date, Snak-Kit is serving 720 hungry students every weekend in Clarendon County! This would not be possible without the generous support of community members, such as Duke Energy!

### **Partnerships**

This year we were thrilled to work on a variety of projects with industry partners to help stamp out food insecurity in our local community!



#### TCFA

This year we were thrilled to partner with TCFA during their Fed Beef Challenge. Participants of the challenge were given the option to donate their participating cattle to local food pantries through Cactus Cares. Thank you to Cactus Feeders, CanTex Feeders, Quality Beef Producers, Quien Sabe Feeders and Tejas Feeders for donating their animals! Together we donated beef to nine food pantries located in the area. The generous donations totaled over 3,800 pounds of ground beef!



#### **IFAA**

Thank you to the lowa Foundation for Agricultural Advancement (IFAA) for partnering with us to help support local food pantries! During the 2023 lowa State Fair, auction buyers had the opportunity to donate animals they purchased to local food pantries through Cactus Cares. Thank you to Cargill, Dart Enterprises, Rival Show Feeds, Sinclair Tractor, & Luana Savings Bank for donating their animals! Together we donated over 500 pounds of meat to local food pantries!

### #PoundsOfPork Challenge





Joining the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) annual "#PoundsOfPork" campaign and social media challenge, Cactus Cares challenged the employees of Cactus Feeders and Cactus Family Farms to donate pork loins to organizations serving the food insecure. Cactus Cares matched every donation to amplify the group's impact further.

Thank you to the over 25 employees who accepted the #PoundsOfPork challenge this year! Cactus Cares matched each of the pork loins donated and together we were able to donate over 625 pork loins to food pantries and heroes in our communities!







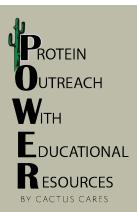


### Cactus Cares P.O.W.E.R. Program

### What is the program?

The Cactus Cares P.O.W.E.R. Program, formerly known as the University Meat Lab Program, was started in March 2020 when we began sourcing ground beef from the West Texas A&M Meat Lab-Doc's Prime Cuts. In this program, we purchase protein from University Meat Laboratories and donate the product to local food pantries and other organizations.

Over 37,000 lbs. sourced in 2023



### **Multiplication Effect**

This creates a multiplication effect- we are able to support both agricultural education and food pantries using the same dollar. The program started with WTAMU and has since expanded to include eight universities across the country.

- Over 140,000 servings donated in 2023
- ✓ Supplies around 36 local organizations with meat
- Continuing to expand in 2024

Thank you to our University Meat Lab Partners across the country!



#### West Texas A&M University

West Texas A&M University was the first meat laboratory we partnered with, and it has remained one of our strongest partners. This year, we sourced over 17,000 pounds of meat from Doc's Prime Cuts. This meat was used to serve 19 different organizations in the Texas Panhandle area. Each of these organizations were handpicked by an employee-owner. More information on some of these organizations can be found on the next few pages.





### Cactus Cares has purchased protein from West Texas A&M to support the following organizations:



#### Washington Street Family Service Center

Over the course of 2023, we were thrilled to supply the Washington Street Family Service Center with a consistent supply of animal protein each month.



### Eveline's Sunshine Cottage

We are excited to continue filling the freezers at Eveline's Sunshine Cottages in 2024! Eveline's Sunshine Cottages are a group of homes where single parent families are able to live with their children while they finish their education. Through this process, single parent moms move from homelessness and hopelessness to a college degree.



### Project Hope

Project Hope was an early partner for Cactus Cares and that partnership continues today. We continue to ensure that Project Hope has a consistent protein supply for their recipients. Project Hope is the food pantry that services the Hugoton, Kansas community.



#### WTAMU On-Campus Food Pantry

After establishing our relationship with Doc's Prime Cuts, their leadership approached us with an opportunity to help supply protein to the WTAMU On Campus Food Pantry. We are thrilled to continue to supply protein to the students, faculty, and staff of WTAMU throughout the year.

### Cactus Cares has purchased protein from West Texas A&M to support the following organizations:



**Sharing Hope** 

Sharing Hope is a program for women who are transitioning from incarceration back into society. Once graduated from the program, Sharing Hope continues to help support the women. One way is by hosting a food pantry for all graduates. We provide protein for this food pantry.



Hamilton County Food Pantry

In 2023, we were thrilled to continue supplying meat to the Hamilton County Food Pantry in Syracuse, Kansas! Our donations consisted of 400 pounds of ground beef each quarter. "This is a game changer for us. Our biggest limiting factor is affordable protein for our baskets", said Hamilton County Food Pantry President Lora Horton.



Veteran's Resource Center

In 2023, we were proud to continue supplying the Veteran's Resource Center with ground beef & ground pork! This meat is used to supply both veterans that are using the resource center and women escaping domestic abuse through their safe house program!



The Tillie Project

The Tillie Project is managed through Snack Pak 4 Kids. This project is aimed at helping the grandparents in Amarillo ISD who are raising their grandchildren and due to those circumstances are experiencing food insecurity. We make sure ground beef and ground pork is available to these grandparents!



#### **Iowa State University**

Iowa State University is currently our primary meat lab supplier for operations in the Upper Midwest. We greatly appreciate their partnership and responsiveness to all of our requests. Together we have supplied over 12,000 pounds of protein to multiple groups across the state of Iowa. Just a few of these groups are highlighted on the next few pages.

We have also partnered with the ISU Block & Bridle club to expand our outreach. Together we have supplied S.H.O.P. (Students Helping Our Peers), the on-campus food pantry, with a consistent supply of animal protein over the course of 2023. We are excited to continue the partnership in 2024!





### Cactus Cares has purchased protein from Iowa State to support the following organizations:



#### The S.H.O.P.

Together with the ISU Block & Bridle Club, we have created a consistent supply of animal protein for The S.H.O.P. (Students Helping Our Peers), the oncampus food pantry at ISU! We look forward to continuing our partnership with both organizations in 2024!



#### **MATURA**

The Ringgold County MATURA Outreach Center is located in Mount Ayr. Here they operate a food pantry as well as other outreach. We have worked with them to build a more consistent supply of protein for their food pantry recipients.



His Hands Food Pantry
In 2023, we were excited to continue supporting His Hands Food Pantry in Oran, Iowa. This food pantry was originally introduced to us by DA Pork, a contract grower for Cactus Family Farms. Since the introduction, we have helped build a consistent supply of protein for His Hands Food Pantry!



#### Osceola Food Pantry-Pastor Pete

The Osceola Food Pantry is spearheaded by Pastor Pete. In addition to operating as a food pantry, they also give out food boxes each month. We have worked with them to make sure that protein is available each month for those boxes.

### Cactus Cares has purchased protein from Iowa State to support the following organizations:



#### Murray Food Pantry

Late in 2020, a CFF employee brought to our attention that the Murray Food Pantry was consistently unable to acquire protein. We have since partnered with them to ensure a consistent supply of protein is available to all of their recipients.



### **Fayette County Food Shelf**

We would like to sincerely thank Cactus Family Farms' contract growers, Nick & Deric, for connecting us to food pantries in their communities this summer! Thanks to those introductions, we have been supplying the Fayette County Food Shelf with a consistent supply of ground beef & ground pork!



#### Clear Lake Ventura

Beginning in June 2023, we were excited to supply the Clear Lake Ventura Food Pantry with a monthly donation of meat from the lowa State Meat Laboratory! This food pantry served over 1,000 families in the community in 2023!



#### Central Decatur Schools

In February, we were thrilled to make our first donation to Central Decatur's school food pantry! We are excited to continue to support this school food pantry in 2024!



#### Texas A&M University

In 2023, we were glad to continue our parternship with the Texas A&M Meat Science & Technology Association! They hosted a brisket sale in December with all proceeds raised to be matched by Cactus Cares. These proceeds will be used to purchase meat from Rosenthal, the on-campus meat lab, and donated to the 12th Can, the on-campus food pantry! Throughout 2023, Cactus Cares donated 1,000 pounds to the 12th Can and we are excited to continue to grow our support of the food pantry in 2024!

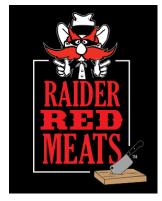




#### **Texas Tech University**

In 2023, we were thrilled to receive a large grant from ADM to help support our P.O.W.E.R. Program through Texas Tech. This grant will allow to purchase over 30,000 pounds of meat from Raider Red Meats to be donated to local food pantries in 2024! In addition, this grant allowed us to begin the process of creating a Master's thesis for a student at Texas Tech. This thesis will focus on measuring the impact of having protein in the diet of an individual experiencing food insecurity! Stay tuned in 2024 for more updates on these exciting initiatives!







#### North Dakota State University

Thank you to the North Dakota State Collegiate CattleWomen for being a strong partner of Cactus Cares! In April, they hosted a 5K with all proceeds going to help us supply meat to their on-campus food pantry, "Goods for the Herd!" We matched all of those proceeds and together have sourced over 750 pounds of meat from the NDSU Meat Lab to donate to "Goods for the Herd!" We are so thankful to have them as a partner and can't wait to continue the parnership in 2024!







#### Oklahoma State University

This year we purchased 6,500 pounds of protein from the Robert M. Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center, the Oklahoma State University Meat Laboratory. This protein was donated to the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma & Our Daily Bread in Stillwater.

In 2023, we also partnered with the Oklahoma State Collegiate CattleWomen to host a t-shirt fundraiser! All proceeds raised went to support the P.O.W.E.R. program at OSU!





#### University of Nebraska-Lincoln

In 2023, we were excited to have a new partnership at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, The Engler Entrepreneurship Program! This group of young leaders did an amazing job hosting their first fundraiser at their end of year banquet where they raised over \$6,000! Cactus Cares matched \$5,000 of these funds and the total will be used to purchase meat from the UNL Meat Lab for local feeding organizations in 2024! The students designated that they would like the meat to be donated to the on-campus food pantry, and also The Gathering Place in Lincoln. The Gathering Place serves free evening meals to those who face hunger in the Lincoln community!







#### Mississippi State University

In the fall of 2022, Mississippi State University approached our Cactus Cares team after hearing them speak at the American Meat Science Leadership Conference. Since then they have hosted multiple fundraisers including cow patty bingo & t-shirt sales in order to raise money to support their on-campus food pantry, Bully's Pantry! Cactus Cares has matched all of those funds and used them to purchase meat from the MAFES Sales Store to donate to Bully's Pantry! We are so excited to continue to support them in 2024!



For the 2023-2024 school year, Cactus Cares awarded \$60,000 to 43 students attending technical or post-secondary school, 100% of all scholarship winners are Cactus employees or their family members.



Abygail Livingston



Alexander Mendez



Amanda Gustin

West Texas
A&M University
Education

Amarillo College Nursing Western Governors University Accounting



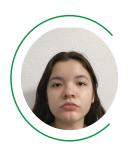
Amanda Martinez-Nateras

Western Illinois
University
Law Enforcement &
Justice Administration



Angie Reyna

Western Governors University Education



Arantza Valdes Martinez

Escena-Escuela de Animación y Artes Creativas Licenciatura en Ilustración y Concept Art

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Blakelee Sladek



Brenna Ellis



Dally Jo Conway

Oklahoma Panhandle State University Animal Science Pre-Vet Clarendon College Animal Science

Frank Phillips College Nursing



**Emma Rosales** 



Jack Studebaker



Jackson Leman

Amarillo College Dental Hygiene Texas Tech University Biology (Pre-Med) Iowa State University Supply Chain Management

For the 2023-2024 school year, Cactus Cares awarded \$60,000 to 43 students attending technical or post-secondary school, 100% of all scholarship winners are Cactus employees or their family members.



Jacqueline Bautista



Jaime Zapata Rivero



Jessinda Davenport

Southwestern Oklahoma State University Radiology & Business Amarillo College/WT Electrical Engineering University of Arkansas Nursing



Joseph Cunningham



Josie Vanderflught



Kaden Jackson

Amarillo College Chemical Engineering Northwest Missouri State University Pre-Med Kansas State University Secondary Education

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Kailey Hervol

Kala Turner

Karlie Venhaus

Hawkeye Community College Nursing TTUHSC School of Medicine Medicine Texas Tech University
Agricultural
Communications







Kenleigh Wells

Kory Kile

Kynlee Swartwood

West Texas A&M University Animal Science Oklahoma City University- School of Law Law West Texas A&M University Agribusiness

For the 2023-2024 school year, Cactus Cares awarded \$60,000 to 43 students attending technical or post-secondary school, 100% of all scholarship winners are Cactus employees or their family members.



Larissa Cunningham



Laura Borron



Leslie Gomez

Texas Tech University Choral Conducting West Texas A&M University General Business

Frank Phillips College Nursing



Lindsey Gale



Lorenzo Amador



Marelyn Martinez

Lamar University
Diagnostician
Certification

Parker University Chiropractic Western Illinois University Kinesiology

For the 2023-2024 school year, Cactus Cares awarded \$60,000 to 43 students attending technical or post-secondary school, 100% of all scholarship winners are Cactus employees or their family members.



Maria Jose Jones



Michele Ashworth



Obet Zahi Cereceres

Des Moines Area Community College Nursing West Texas A&M University Accounting

Amarillo College Nursing



**Odalys Barrera** 



Rebecca Cook



**Rosston Thomas** 

Amarillo College Nursing West Texas A&M University Nursing West Texas A&M University MBA

For the 2023-2024 school year, Cactus Cares awarded \$60,000 to 43 students attending technical or post-secondary school, 100% of all scholarship winners are Cactus employees or their family members.



Sheena Kelly



Stephanie Hernandez



Tate Cox

West Texas A&M
University
Accounting

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Doctor of Physical Therapy University of Oklahoma
Accounting



Tatum Keller



Trenton Engle



Yahara Amador

Oklahoma State University Nursing SWICC Creston Collison Repair Oklahoma Panhandle State University Computer Information Systems

### Grants

In 2023, Cactus Cares was blessed to receive large grants from the following organizations! Thank you for your support of our programs! We are excited about the impact these grants will have on our programs in 2024!



#### Archer Daniels Midland

In 2023, we were thrilled to receive a large grant from ADM to help support our P.O.W.E.R. Program through Texas Tech. This grant will allow us to purchase over 30,000 pounds of meat from Raider Red Meats to be donated to local food pantries in 2024! In addition, this grant allowed us to begin the process of creating a Master's thesis for a student at Texas Tech. This thesis will focus on measuring the impact of having protein in the diet of an individual experiencing food insecurity! Stay tuned in 2024 for more updates on these exciting initiatives!



#### Carol K. Engler Foundation

ENGLER for generously supplying grants to support Thank you to the Carol K. Engler Foundation both the P.O.W.E.R. Program in Amarillo & our Snak-Kit Program in Manning! These grants will help us to expand our reach in both of these critical programs!

### Thank you!

Thank you to all of the generous people who donated their resources to Cactus Cares in 2023! Whether it was a monetary donation or a donation of your time, we would not have had the same impact in our community over the past year, if it was not for you! Thank you for helping us fight food insecurity!









### Interested in Giving?

Donors are crucial to our outreach and impact as a nonprofit organization! We have set up different ways to donate that are outlined below:

#### **Donate Online**

You can donate online by following the below QR code.



### Payroll Deduction

If you are a Cactus employee who is interested in having money deducted directly from your paycheck and donated to Cactus Cares, please contact Shelby at CactusCares@cactusfeeders.com Payroll deductions are customizable in amount.

### Mail A Check

Checks can be mailed to: Cactus Cares PO Box 9935 Amarillo, TX 79105

Thank you to our generous donors who make this great work possible!



