On Thursday, May 30th 2019, the Texas A&M Department of Economics staff went to the Brazos Valley Food Bank to help sort, categorize and stack donated food for thousands of needy families.

Each quarter, an ECON staff member picks a different charity in which to donate time or resources. This quarter, Kurt Felpel (Assistant Department Head) selected The Brazos Valley Food Bank for the charitable event. The Food Bank has a goal of collecting and safely storing surplus food, organizing and sorting it with the help of volunteers, then distributing it to areas of high need through partner agencies and special programs to ensure that hungry neighbors are fed. In 2017-2018, the Brazos Valley Food Bank distributed 6,858,438 pounds, or the equivalent of 5,621,670 meals.

Eight Economics staff worked a couple of hours taking donated food items, sorting the items into categories and then weighing and palatizing the boxes. At the end of the shift the ECON staff had sorted 2,245 meals.

*ECON Staff work sorting food at the Brazos Valley Food Bank 30 May, 2019. From L to R: Tim Gronberg (Department Head), Margaret Carpenter (Masters Program Coordinator), Lynn Drake (Business Coordinator II)*
ECON staff sort donated food at the Brazos Valley Food bank.

L to R: Chelsi Bass, Tim Gronberg, Rochelle Read, Lynn Drake, Paula Verdegaal, Kurt Felpel, Margaret Carpenter and Mary Owens