

MY

Who faces hunger in Arizona?

STORY

A couple of years ago, I moved to Nogales from Phoenix with my son. I haven't been able to work for the past year because of an injury without a clear diagnosis.

To meet SNAP eligibility requirements though, I volunteer 20 hours a week at the Nogales Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. The staff here treat all of the volunteers with such kindness, they make us feel special. It's a wonderful place to volunteer, especially because I get to help others. Once a month, I receive a food box, which helps a lot.

I receive \$320 a month in SNAP benefits for me and my son, which helps me purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, and fish. My son is in high school, and I pack his lunch every day because he is trying very hard to eat healthy. I really want to help him with that, and we are fortunate that I can purchase the nutritious food he needs with help from SNAP.

I hope that soon I can get a doctor's release to return to work, but, until then, I will continue to volunteer.



Maria Monreal
Nogales, Arizona