

# MY

*Who faces hunger in Arizona?*

# STORY

I never thought I would be the one in line at the food bank. I had a thriving career as a real estate professional and co-owner of a small business. Through my volunteer efforts, along with others, I helped organize several smaller food banks along the Colorado River. Once, I was pictured in the local newspaper for my volunteer efforts in feeding the poor.

Everything changed when I was in a serious car accident. I broke my jaw and had to have extensive surgeries. My looks drastically changed, and, according to my boss, because I had no teeth, I couldn't sell houses. It's been a long road to recovery. The enormous cost of healthcare has left me broke.

Now I'm a caregiver. I live with an elderly woman, who I care for, and I also help out with her neighbors. The truth is, they take care of me too.

I receive \$125 each month in SNAP benefits, which isn't enough, so I supplement at the food bank with a box four or five times a year, when I really need it. I'm not required to work under the SNAP program, because of where I live, but I'm already working anyway. I also volunteer at the food bank when I can.

Without SNAP, I know I'd go hungry. Any cuts to the program would be devastating for the community. I wish there was more outreach to find out who really is hungry in the Yuma area. It's more people than you would think.



**Shannon Robinson**  
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