



Your June Kitchen Corps Newsletter

Jun 9, 2026



Dear friend,

Happy June and welcome to the second edition of your Kitchen Corps newsletter! That might sound like a small thing, but it matters a lot here at WCK.

I started this newsletter because I wanted to close a gap. So much of what WCK does never makes the headlines: the quiet deployments, the culturally thoughtful meals, the moment someone hears their language spoken at a food distribution site. This is your monthly window into the full depth of the work your support makes possible.



Here's what's inside this month:

1. Responding to the Garden Grove Chemical Leak
2. Staff spotlight: Meet Marco Sánchez, Internal Communications Director

3. How to Manage Your Monthly Gift

4. Your Questions Answered: How WCK gets local ingredients when resources are limited

Thank you for being part of our kitchen.

With gratitude,
Lindsey

P.S. Have questions about how we work? [Email us with your questions, feedback, or topics you'd like to learn more about.](#)



Lindsey Latham
Kitchen Corps Manager
World Central Kitchen



More Than a Meal Showing Up for Garden Grove

When a storage tank holding a highly flammable chemical cracked at a facility in Garden Grove, California last month, 50,000 residents were forced to evacuate. Within hours, WCK was on the ground—serving 6,744 meals over three days at evacuation centers, churches, and to first responders.

While the response may have been brief, what wasn't was the care behind it. Our chefs sourced Bánh Mì sandwiches for the area's large Vietnamese community and ice cream on Memorial Day offered a moment of joy when it was needed most. Team members fluent in Spanish and Vietnamese were present to connect with community members, because hearing your own language matters as much as being fed.

One of our Spanish-speaking team members was Marco Sánchez — a WCK staff member who heard about the crisis and didn't hesitate cutting his vacation

short to help. In the story below, he shares what that experience meant to him.



Staff Spotlight

Marco Sánchez

As our Internal Communications Director, Marco's work is about keeping staff informed, connected, and inspired by the stories of our people and our teams around the world. That means connecting with colleagues across multiple continents, which has brought him a deeper appreciation for the incredible global network that makes WCK possible. At Garden Grove, he brought that inspiration off the page, serving his home community and connecting with families through food and language.

When you heard about Garden Grove, what inspired you to go?

My first thought was, "That's home." Orange County, California is where I grew up, and much of my family still lives there. I was actually on vacation when the Garden Grove response started, but I knew I wanted to help because this wasn't just another activation. It was personal. Being able to support a WCK response in a place that means so much to me was incredibly special.

What does it mean to you to serve a community that shares your language during a crisis?

As the son and grandson of immigrants, I know how important it is to feel seen and understood, especially during difficult moments. Being able to speak Spanish with community members helped create an immediate sense of connection and trust. Garden Grove is home to vibrant Vietnamese, Mexican, and immigrant communities. In a crisis, something as simple as speaking someone's language can help them feel a little more comfortable and a little less alone. Being able to offer that connection while representing WCK was something I'll carry with me for a long time.

What's the one meal that always makes you feel at home?

Enchiladas. Growing up in Southern California, they were always at the center of family gatherings. No matter where I am in the world, they remind me of home.

A screenshot of a web form titled "Sign in" with a progress indicator (two dots, the second is active). The form includes an "Email" field with a red asterisk, a placeholder "Enter your email address", a "Remember me" checkbox, and an orange "Next" button. To the right of the form, the text "Managing Your Monthly Gift" is displayed in a large, bold, purple font. A dotted purple line separates the form from the title text.

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Sign in

Email *

Enter your email address

☒ Remember me

Next

Managing Your Monthly Gift

Your monthly gift is yours to change, anytime. Through the [secure donor portal](#), you can update your payment method, adjust your gift amount, pause your donation, or make any changes you need. No password required.

Here's how:

1. Open the [secure donor portal](#) and enter the email address associated with your monthly donation
2. Select **Next** then click **Get Magic Link**
3. Check your inbox for an email from GoFundMe Pro and click the **Sign In button** inside
4. Once you're logged in, select **Recurring Donations** from the navigation menu
5. Click **Manage Donation** and make your changes

If you don't see the emails, please check your spam folder. Gmail users should also check the Social and Promotions tabs. If you need help, don't hesitate to reach out.



Your Questions Answered

How do you source local ingredients in an area that has lost most of its infrastructure after a crisis?

Buying and cooking locally is at the heart of how WCK works. It supports regional economies, keeps food familiar, and gets fresher meals to people faster. But when a crisis hits, roads get blocked and ports shut down. That's when our teams get to work finding what's still standing and go straight to the community.

When Hurricane Melissa tore through Jamaica, supply chains were severed. While we brought in dry goods to get cooking started quickly, our teams sourced fresh produce locally and partnered with a local spice merchant for the jerk, curry, and stew blends that make food taste like home. Martin, a local fisherman from Negril, went out and caught fish for WCK teams to help prepare beloved local dishes for families in the area.

When an ingredient truly can't be found nearby, we build the shortest, safest supply line possible. The goal never changes: the freshest ingredients, sourced as close to the community as we can get. Your monthly gift keeps our teams moving, finding ingredients, building supply lines, and getting meals to people no matter what stands in the way.
