

## MEET KATHLEEN AND PAUL STEVENS

April 2021



It started with a stolen can of Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soup to feed her hungry young children.

Today, life is good for "soup thief" Kathleen Stevens. She has plenty of food for her family and actively helps others through a nonprofit that she co-founded, "You Can Stop Domestic Abuse" <http://youcanstopdomesticabuse.org>. Still, that desperate feeling of seeing her children go hungry and that stolen can of soup didn't leave Kathleen. She decided to do something about it.

On April 9, 2021, volunteers from the Green Bag Food Project picked up 50 bags filled with healthy foods from Kathleen and Paul Stevens' house and dropped them at FISH of Vancouver Food Pantry. These 50 bags filled two vehicles: 724 pounds of food like cans of Campbell's soup, Dinty Moore Stew, easy-open packs of tuna salad and crackers, bags of easy-peel mandarin oranges, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, and much, much more. It took Kathleen weeks of shopping, and every single item she bought was a way to fend off that hunger for other families.

*"This has been a tough year. We've seen so many folks who have said 'I used to donate food to you guys and I never thought I'd be here needing help.' But life can turn on an instant, as we all know. So when we at FISH see a car pull up, the whole back full of the beautiful lime green bags from our local "Green Bag Projects," we know it's going to be a good day. The support of our local neighborhoods, and of individuals like Kathleen, fills our shelves, fills our client pantries, and fills all our hearts. Thank you Kathleen!" -- Dr. Beth Lee, FISH of Vancouver Board member*