



feeding MATTERS

Fall 2010

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September is Hunger Action Month, a month when we work to raise awareness about the issues of hunger and poverty, and issue a call to action for our donors, agencies, volunteers, elected officials, and staff. There are a number of ways to work on behalf of our hungry neighbors that you will find in this newsletter, and in various agencies in southeast Nebraska. Lending a hand at the Food Bank, or at one of our 65 agencies in southeast Nebraska is one option. All of us are looking for people that are willing to put their shoulder to the wheel of hunger. We have found that few things are as powerful, or enlightening as handing food to folks that need it.

This past July I was feeling a bit disconnected from the outcomes produced by the Food Bank. The easiest way to get back in touch with our work is to lend a hand at one of our food distributions, so I put on some shorts and a t-shirt, and worked the Tuesday afternoon Neighborhood FOOD Program food distribution at the F Street Rec Center in Lincoln. This partnership with our friends at Center for People in Need will distribute close to over 1.5 million meals this year.

Several lessons were reaffirmed for me that hot afternoon as I worked with our dedicated staff member, Jackie Murrell.

- There is great need.
- Volunteers are critically important.
- Compassion abounds.
- Food is heavy. (That makes the work physically challenging for staff and volunteers alike.)

People's needs are readily apparent at our food distributions. Among the faces we see at F Street Rec Center, and at most of our food distributions include the elderly, immigrants, people with special needs, people struggling with drug and alcohol issues, single moms, and sadly lots of children.

All types of people, young and old, single and with families, all ethnicities standing in line for a long time on a hot July afternoon because their needs are great. I immediately felt re-connected to our good work. I learned again how hard being a low-income person can be. Those in line at the F Street Rec Center for the Neighborhood FOOD Program live hard lives. Our work is important to them, and hopefully provides not only food but hope.

We are asking for your on-going commitment during Hunger Action Month. We could not serve the number of people and agencies we are serving without your continued support. And we are grateful.

Best regards,

Scott Young, Food Bank of Lincoln



MESSAGE



CHILDHOOD HUNGER

Children who grow up in families below 185% of the Federal Poverty level and who live in hungry and/or food insecure homes suffer 2-4 times as many health problems as their counterparts who do not experience hunger. www.hungernet.org



This summer, thanks to Allied Insurance, 185 children received food filled bags on Friday afternoons at McPhee, Belmont and Clinton elementary schools.



The Backpack program is sending out over 2,500 backpacks each Friday afternoon during the 2010-2011 school year. These students in 70 schools in southeast Nebraska will benefit from this program which helps to put food in the households of these families who are in need of extra meals for the weekend.

DID YOU KNOW

- In the year 2000, the Food Bank distributed 189,557 lbs of food for each of our 10 full time employees.
- In the year 2009, the Food Bank distributed 399,626 lbs of food for each of our 16 full time employees.
- During the first 6 months of 2010, your Food Bank distributed more food than we did in all of 2007 .
- Out of 203 Food Banks in the Feeding America network, the Food Bank of Lincoln is ranked 10th in the number of pounds of food distributed per person in poverty.

VIRTUAL NEW VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE

We are pleased to let you know about a new tool that we have introduced for your online donations. The Food Bank of Lincoln has prepared a "Virtual Food Drive" that you can use to provide food to folks while eliminating most of the "heavy lifting" work that goes with staging a food drive, or mailing a check to us for your donation.

This is a secure website where you can click and drag many of our most needed food items into a grocery bag and check out. Your gifts will enable the Food Bank to turn a ten-dollar bill into seventy dollars worth of food. Our Virtual Food Drive is our most efficient giving tool. With your dollars, we will be providing food to all of our programs as efficiently as we can. At the same time, we will save a significant amount of dollars in fuel and labor costs.

It's easy. It's fun. It's effective. It will help your Food Bank get more food to more people. Your company's "food gathering" will be tracked by our staff, and we can keep you up to date on how many dollars and pounds you have gathered by using the Virtual Food Drive.

If you will go to the link below, you will find our Virtual Food Drive on our website. <http://www.lincolnfoodbank.org/cart.php>



LEADING THE WAY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010

Brad Philson
President

Lizabeth Kuhlman
Vice President

Jim Lamphere
Secretary

Sue Staehr
Treasurer

Kris Rutford
Past President

Connie Hilligoss
At Large Member

Zainab Al-Baaj

Jolene Bartling

Sharon Bowen

Beatty Brasch

Molly Brummond

Nancy Ganser

T.J. McDowell, Jr.

Linda Robinson Rutz

Alex Shada

Mike Tavlin

Greg Yank

Pat Raybould
Chair, FIAC

Staff

Dedicated and talented
staff of 16 full time

Volunteers

Over 20,000 hours of
donated time

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Annual Report 2009

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$820,731
Certificates of deposit	628,478
Accounts receivable	18,289
Pledges receivable	27,986
Grants receivable	30,000
Prepaid expenses	38,091
Inventory	915,591
Total current assets	2,479,166

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT	793,618
Total assets	\$3,272,784

Liabilities and Net Assets

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$40,026
Payroll taxes payable	1,717
Accrued wages	28,362
Accrued vacation	11,608
Total current liabilities	81,713

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	
Undesignated	2,265,665
Board designated	142,710
Temporarily restricted	782,696
Permanently restricted	-
Total net assets	3,191,071
Total liabilities and net assets	\$3,272,784

ADDING IT UP

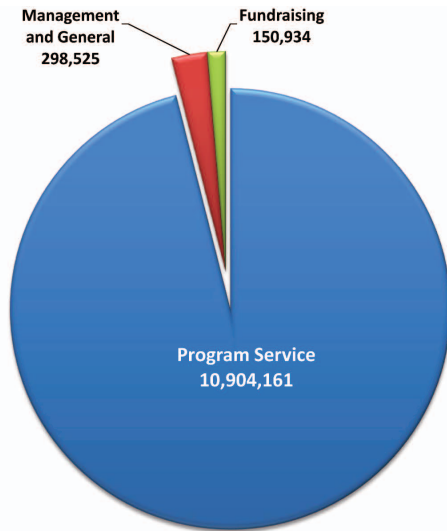
ON A MISSION...

The mission of the Food Bank of Lincoln is to alleviate hunger in southeast Nebraska.

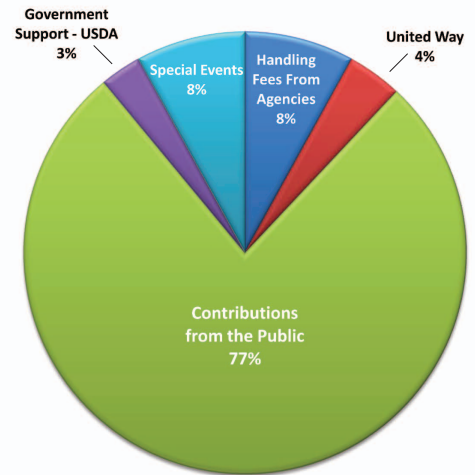
Going into 2009, the Food Bank Board of Directors set what was believed to be an aggressive goal of five million pounds of distributed food, which would have been an increase of 16% over our record year in 2008. As we recognized the increased need, a sense of urgency grew among our staff, agencies, volunteers and donors. We finished the year at 6,394,020 pounds of distributed food, a 48% increase over the previous year.

2009 was a year that revealed possibilities to the board, staff, volunteers and donors of the Food Bank of Lincoln. We are striving to be our best, when our best is needed most.

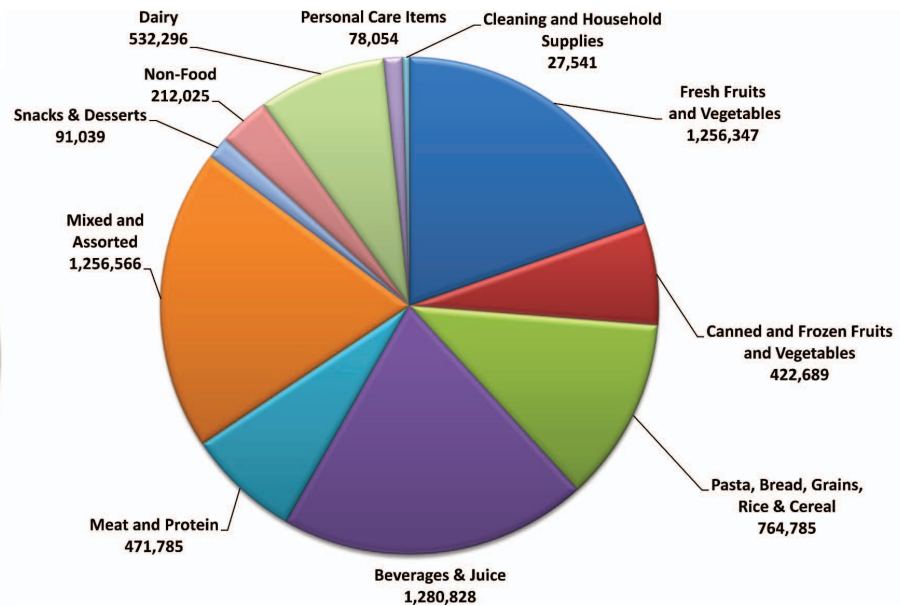
Expenses



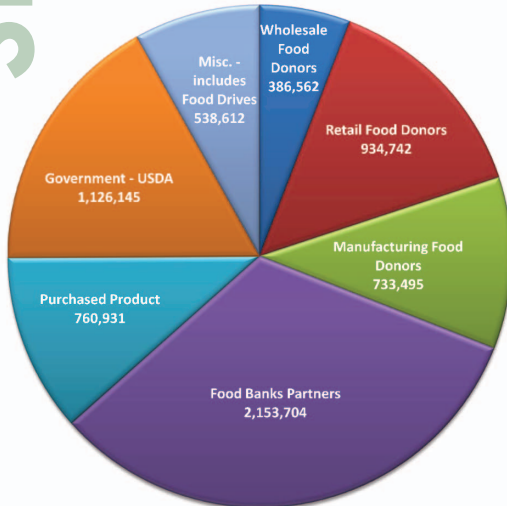
Operation Source Income



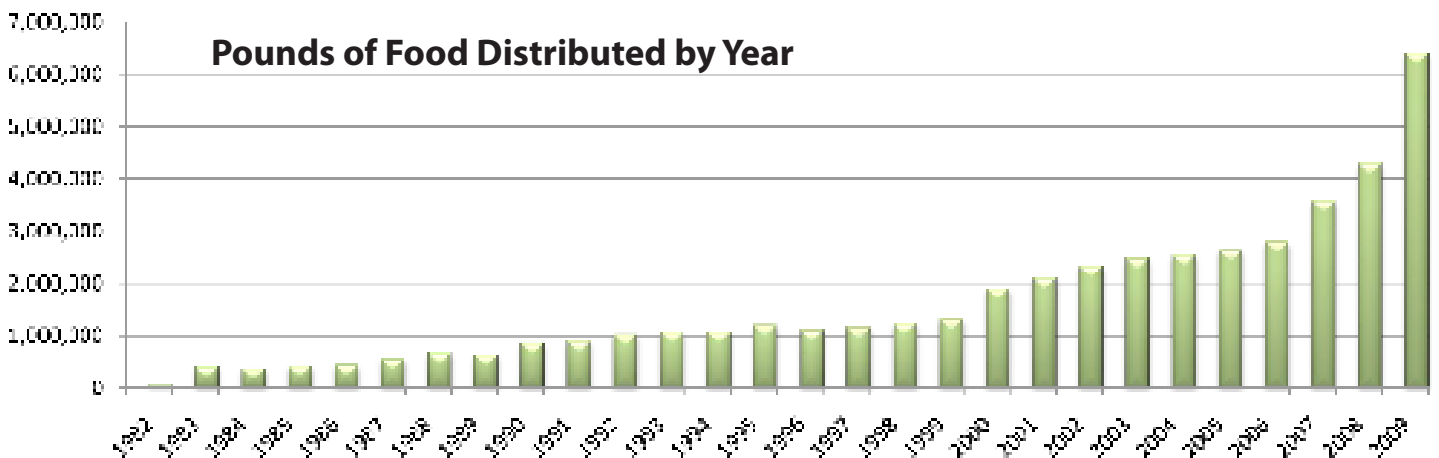
Distribution Breakout



Where Does Our Food Come From?



Pounds of Food Distributed by Year



FOOD BANK OF LINCOLN FOUNDATION

During a strategic planning session several years ago, the Food Bank Board of Directors made the decision to start a Foundation, the mission of which would be to help insure the financial future of the Food Bank of Lincoln. We formed a board of outstanding Lincoln citizens, and began thinking about the role a Foundation could play in ensuring the future work of alleviating hunger in southeast Nebraska.

In January of this year, we undertook a strategic planning process specifically for the Food Bank of Lincoln Foundation. This past spring and summer, we decided on a mission statement and some goals for the Foundation, that you will be hearing more about in the coming months.

In the meantime, if you would like more information about making a legacy gift to the Food Bank through our Foundation, please give Food Bank Executive Director Scott Young a call at 402-466-8170 Extension 105.

NEW FACES AT THE FOOD BANK

Sue Hinrichs and Mariana Schell

This summer the Food Bank of Lincoln welcomed two new staff members who will support our work in a couple of key areas. Sue Hinrichs is our new Director of Agency Relations. Sue has over 18 years in the human services world in Lincoln, and most recently been the Local Census Office Manager for the U.S. Census Bureau Local Census Office in Lincoln. Sue will oversee our Agency Relations area, and also provide leadership in a new program that the Food Bank is undertaking, SNAP Outreach. SNAP is an acronym for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly thought of as the Food Stamp Program.



Pictured Above: Sue Hinrichs (L) and Mariana Schell (R)

We have hired Mariana Schell as our SNAP Outreach Coordinator to help us build this effort in our 16 county service area in southeast Nebraska. Mariana will be working with the State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, the Food Bank for the Heartland in Omaha and our agencies to construct a statewide plan to connect thousands of eligible Nebraskans with this valuable federal program.

Mariana is a native of Mexico City, Mexico who came to the United States 1997 to work. She has a degree in Business Administration from the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Campus Queretaro and is working on her Masters of Arts in Management at Doane College. If you would like to find out more about our new and growing SNAP outreach efforts, call Mariana at the Food Bank, 466-8170, extension 111.

Sue and Mariana will both support our mission of alleviating hunger in southeast Nebraska.

UPCOMING PROMOTIONS AND FOOD DRIVES

UPCOMING

CHECK OUT HUNGER | NOV. 1 – DEC. 31

During the months of November and December, over 30 area grocery stores and convenience shops will feature Check Out Hunger pads in \$1, \$5, and \$10 denominations at checkout stands. Shoppers who would like to participate can tear off a coupon and hand it to the cashier, adding the corresponding amount to the shopper's grocery bill. Based on these transactions the Food Bank accumulates an account in each partner store, and then purchases items for hungry neighbors at that store. It is a win-win-win promotion: the shopper can easily make a donation to help families in need, the stores make sales, and the Food Bank is able to gather its most needed items for distribution to its agencies. Check Out Hunger raises around \$35,000 worth of food each winter for the Food Bank of Lincoln.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE | NOV. 15 – DEC. 23

The Holiday Food Drive is held each year between Thanksgiving and Christmas. In 2010 it will run from November 15 through December 23. To kick off the drive, the Lincoln Journal Star will insert grocery bags with the slogan "Think of this bag as an empty cupboard. Help us fill it" into 68,000 newspapers on Monday, November 15.

Friends of the Food Bank can fill these bags with food and drop them off in a Food Bank barrel at over 30 participating grocery stores in Lincoln and surrounding communities. Many stores will also have prepacked holiday food bags that customers can buy to fill the barrels.

KIDS CAN HELP FOOD DRIVE | NOV. 8 – NOV. 19

Since its beginning in 1991, the annual student food drive "Kids CAN Help" has collected over 417,500 pounds of food and grown tremendously. In 2009, 36 schools participated in Kids CAN Help drives in the spring and the fall.

For 2010, the fall food drive will run November 8-19 at schools in Lincoln. In the Fall of 2009 the "Kids CAN Help" food drive collected food to stock the shelves of the Lincoln Public School's Emergency Pantry, a great example of kids helping kids!



Become a fan of the Food Bank of Lincoln on Facebook. Just search Food Bank of Lincoln, and "like" us. It's a great way to support the fight against hunger in southeast Nebraska, and to keep up with the activities of the organization.



4840 Doris Bair Circle, Suite A • Lincoln, NE 68504
402-466-8170 • www.lincolnfoodbank.org