

feeding MATTERS



Fall Newsletter

More Food to More Kids



Of the estimated 60,020 food insecure individuals who live in Southeast Nebraska, 19,570 are children under the age of 18. In the Food Bank's 16-county service area, 90 schools host some kind of Food Bank of Lincoln-supported Child Hunger program. As the need for supplemental support increases, we have undertaken a rigorous assessment of our programs to identify ways we can help connect **more food to more kids**.

For many people, the Backpack Program is the most familiar food distribution model we offer. The Backpack Program began at Clinton Elementary School in 2004. At that time, it meant sending food-filled backpacks home with 50 students each Friday. During the 2016-2017 school year, 3,467 backpacks went home 34 weeks during the school year with students from schools across Southeast Nebraska.

The Backpack Program generally serves elementary age students, yet we know child hunger doesn't end in fifth grade. We know there are waiting lists of students and schools that need food support services, and we simply cannot keep up. But we're not giving up. either.

We've challenged ourselves and our partners to embrace more efficient systems that will get more food to more kids. This is why our Child Hunger Programs extend into

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Your Child Hunger donations will be DOUBLED through September 30!
 Look on page 3 for more information.



What is a Food Market?

A Food Market is a Child Hunger program where a Food Bank driver delivers menu-specific items to a school once a month. The school encourages students, parents, and/or staff to walk through and select food for the student and his or her family. Recipients walk away with as much or slightly more food than is available in a month's worth of Backpacks. The Food Bank also supplies each distribution with fresh produce, bakery items and occasionally specialty items.



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What's important to you as a Food Bank of Lincoln supporter is important to us. As a donor, we want you to have full confidence in the Food Bank, our mission and our practices. According to the Donor Bill of Rights, your expectations of us should include:

- To have access to the organization's most recent financial statements
- To receive appropriate acknowledgement and recognition.
- To be assured that information about their donations is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.

If you have any questions about how your donor dollars are being used, please call us at 402.466.8170.

The Donor Bill of Rights was developed by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Giving Institute: Leading Consultants to Non-Profits and other top consultants to non-profits. Look for more from the Donor Bill of Rights in future newsletters.



A Message From the Executive Director

Last month marked the 35th Anniversary of the Food Bank of Lincoln. We opened our doors in August of 1982 at a garage-size location near 35th and Adams. The 17 prominent Lincoln leaders who served on our first Board of Directors could not have imagined the growth of the organization, or the growth of the need in our 16-county service area in Southeast Nebraska.

In our first full year of operations, 1983, the Food Bank distributed 405,988 pounds of food. That work would have been terribly difficult, with the lack of equipment, refrigeration, space and staff. From our first day through the end of our most recent fiscal year, June 30th, the Food Bank had distributed 94,165,708 pounds of food.

According to a few well-educated approximations, hard and fast pounds per day calculations, and some Executive Director math, **the Food Bank will distribute its 100,000,000th pound of food on February 27th.**

How do you like them apples?

Our world has changed dramatically since our simple beginnings. America has changed. Values and Mission last. We believe our first Board of Directors would embrace the Food Bank's important values here in 2017; Compassion, Responsibility, Collaboration, Education and Diversity. Our mission honors our founders and the people we serve: to Alleviate Hunger in Southeast Nebraska.

We are grateful.

Scott Young
Executive Director
Food Bank of Lincoln

LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR FILE PHOTOS



Bob Troyer, general manager of the Food Bank, with food collected during a benefit in 1982, the Food Bank's first year of operation.



Wende Baker, former executive director of the Food Bank, stands amid some of nearly 50,000 pounds of food donated during the second annual Holiday Food Share campaign in December 1986.



Wende Baker, former executive director of the Food Bank, visits with former Mayor Bill Harris at the official opening of the Food Bank's new 10,000-square-foot building at 4800 N. 57th St. in October 1987.

Thousands of compassionate souls have contributed food, dollars, muscles and brains to this interesting work. In these 35 years the staff and Boards have been humbled, challenged, affirmed and supported. The exceptional group of community leaders that started the Food Bank back in 1982 had great vision, and abundant imagination.

More Food to More Kids

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middle and high schools. Our Child Hunger Programs now include: Backpack, Food Markets, Student-Parent Vouchers, and the LPS Emergency Pantry. Across all of these services, we are committed to providing healthier options by adding or increasing the amount of fresh produce available whenever possible.

Our Child Hunger programs currently serve approximately 5,200 students and their families each month. Our research indicates one way we can connect food to more children and families is by becoming more effective in our delivery system. This means implementing strategies that allow even greater financial accountability to donors while connecting more families to our services.

We called on our school partners to join us in making necessary changes, and they stepped up. In preparation for the current school year, we asked four elementary school partners to pilot a Food Market program this school year. In addition to the elementary schools transitioning from the Backpack to the Food Market model, we have been able to add Lefler Middle School, a new school partner to our list of schools served by the Food Bank of Lincoln.

Human services are ultimately not about the bottom line. It's about working to meet basic needs and support equal opportunities for individuals to thrive. Together with our partners and friends, we will continue to challenge our models to ensure we're focused on our mission to alleviate hunger in Southeast Nebraska. We are grateful for the support our donors offer to ensure all children have the proper fuel for learning.

FOOD BANK of LINCOLN



Child Hunger PROGRAMS



Our Child Hunger programs currently serve approximately 5,200 STUDENTS and their families each month.

Child Hunger donations MATCHED through September

Thanks to Food Bank friends Craig and Ginger Gies, every dollar donated for Child Hunger through September will be matched (up to \$35,000).

Visit www.lincolnfoodbank.org or contact John Mabry at jmabry@lincolnfoodbank.org for more information. Thank you, Craig and Ginger, for this generous gift to help children and families in need at Back-to-School time.

Thank you

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Big thanks to Roland Temme and our friends at TMCO for their support of our Child Hunger Programs. TMCO provides funding and volunteer help at the Park Middle School Market, which provides food for more than 400 students each month. This Food Market launched last school year, and TMCO recommitted to sponsoring it once again. Thank you, TMCO. We couldn't do it without you!



HUNGER ACTION MONTH™

MEMBER OF
FEEDING
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Take Action to End Hunger

The only way we'll solve the problem of hunger is by taking action together. **September is designated as Hunger Action Month**, and that's when we'll be asking you to join us in this national movement.

When we raise our voices in unison, we can influence Congress and our local governments to strengthen anti-hunger legislation. We can educate our neighbors, coworkers, faith groups, business associates and friends to take action to fight hunger across the U.S.A. We all have a role to play in getting food assistance to our neighbors in need.

Find out how you can be a part of Hunger Action Month by visiting our website at lincolnfoodbank.org



MARK YOUR CALENDAR with these important dates, and visit our website for even more ways you can get involved in Hunger Action Month.

Sunday, Oct. 1

Lincoln CAN finale event at UNL's East Campus, 2-4 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 3

Come see us at First Friday Family Night at Lincoln Children's Museum!

Sunday, Nov. 26

Abendmusik presents: Messiah Community Sing-Along at First Plymouth Church, 4 p.m.

December

Lincoln Community Playhouse partnership:
"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!"



LINCOLN CAN

Lincoln CAN is a new opportunity for the community to raise food and funds to fight hunger. In honor of our 35th anniversary, we aim to raise \$35,000 and 35,000 pounds of food. We invite you, your friends, coworkers, neighbors, social clubs, etc. to take part in this effort.

Together we CAN do more! Get the details at www.lincolnfoodbank.org/lincolnCAN.



HOURS
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

LOCATION
4840 Doris Bair Circle, Suite A
(next to Doris Bair softball complex)

MAILING ADDRESS
Food Bank of Lincoln
4840 Doris Bair Circle, Suite A
Lincoln, NE 68504

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