During this holiday season, we want to express our thanks to you for being a friend of the Food Bank of Lincoln.

This newsletter serves as our Annual Report and provides you with an overview of our FY18 which ended June 30. Our team spends considerable time throughout the year preparing for our annual audit, which has grown over the years along with our services. We invest wisely in the tracking of income, expenses, designated gifts, assets, and liabilities. We have a finance team in which we take great pride; Nancy Gritz, Brenda Davis, and Karen Hardesty. Patti Flynn oversees our food inventory which plays a significant role in our annual financial affairs. Our entire staff is extremely conscientious about how we use our community’s dollars.

In this letter, you are presented with the “where and how” the Food Bank is deploying our resources. Equally important is our “why.”

Research tells us:
• There are 58,550 people in our 16-county service area who are food insecure.
  Of that group, 18,940 people are kids.

Experience tells us:
• Of veterans we serve at the VA in Lincoln, people that served us who now need our service.
• Of seniors on fixed incomes, people who have lived long lives, who need a hand from neighbors.
• Of hard-working people with more than one job, people who end up with more month than money.
• Of kids, young people from families that depend on school cafeterias for part of their weekly food.
• Of addicts, people who are doing the hardest of work, trying to restore their damaged lives.

Our Food Bank Values are Responsibility, Compassion, Collaboration, Education, and Diversity. Our Annual Report highlights our responsibilities to our friends, partners, and community.

We can take pride in millions of meals connected, millions of dollars, and thousands of volunteers that work to alleviate hunger in Southeast Nebraska. In the end, the Food Bank stories are best told by the people we are honored to serve. Thanks for joining us in this work.

Best regards,

Scott Young
Executive Director
Food Bank of Lincoln
Food Bank Soup: A Pinch of Caring that's Great for Sharing

This is the tale of a pot of soup ... Part leftovers and part life-lesson, a warm and hearty meal once prepared and served to young women and moms at Cedars in Lincoln; this is the story of "Food Bank Soup.

LaVonne Elfring, of Lincoln, formerly of York, knows the secret recipe that really isn't a recipe at all.

"I'm not sure we ever had one (a recipe)," says Elfring, a Lincoln High grad, who spent years as a social worker in Lincoln. "I had the girls save any leftover vegetables from meals. We'd put them in plastic bags and freeze them until we had enough," she explains. "And when we got some canned beef through the Food Bank from the Mennonite canner we would make vegetable soup. We called it "Food Bank Soup," because that's where the ingredients came from. We used whatever the Food Bank gave us at our weekly trip there."

Elfring has fond memories of her work as a residential shift manager for the Cedars TLC (Teaching & Learning with Children) program; a program which assisted young pregnant women and their babies. These young women typically resided at Cedars for a year, following which Elfring kept in touch thanks to grant funding for Life 101. As she looks over a scrapbook presented to her upon her retirement she says, "The best part of working there was watching the girls grow into confident women while learning to parent."

"It was part of the girls' education to plan meals and make a grocery list before we would go out to the Food Bank," Elfring says staff and clients were always looking for ways to make the most of whatever they got and this meal was a favorite. It was soup containing vegetables and canned beef received through the Food Bank of Lincoln. It was a bonus meal; one that hit the spot and stretched the dollar.

When asked, "What's for dinner?" ... Elfring's response was often, "Food Bank Soup."

It was a popular meal. It had it all; veggies, meat, and potatoes. It had great flavor and was never the same twice. She reports it was often paired with cornbread, also from the Food Bank.

Elfring smiles as she admits saving the veggies became a habit, "I still freeze mine at home, they make the best soup." She says she can't help but wonder how many of her former clients do the same thing.

After all, it's a soup made with a large pinch of caring, that is still great for sharing.

Donor Testimonial: Huffs Join Food for Tomorrow Legacy Society

John and Vicki Huff have been great friends of our mission for many years and recently shared the news that the Food Bank of Lincoln is in their estate plan:

"We have had the privilege of contributing to the work of the Food Bank of Lincoln since the 80's, witnessing the daily miracles that happen when individuals provide the necessary funds to sustain programming in our community. We wanted those miracles to continue beyond our lives so it was only natural we would provide funds for them in our estate plan. Even when we are gone, our legacy of giving will continue by providing for the needs of the underserved through our estate gift to the Food Bank of Lincoln."

Thank you, John and Vicki. For more information about joining the Food for Tomorrow Legacy Society, contact John Mabry at jmabry@lincolnfoodbank.org or (402) 466-8170, ext. 110.
Statement of Financial Position

**Assets**

**CURRENT ASSETS**
- Cash & cash equivalents: $1,297,755
- Certificates of deposit: 556,330
- Accounts receivable: 20,974
- Pledges receivable, current portion: 232,129
- Promises to give: 7,028
- Grants receivable: 217,088
- Prepaid expenses: 342,346
- Inventory (donated & purchased): 988,497
- Inventory held for others: 94,626

**Total current assets** $3,756,773

**PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT, NET** $956,065

**OTHER ASSETS**
- Pledges receivable, less current portion: 8,500
- Investments: -

**Total other assets** $8,500

**TOTAL ASSETS** $4,721,338

**Liabilities and Net Assets**

**CURRENT LIABILITIES**
- Accounts payable: $278,209
- Agency overpayment: 505
- Payroll taxes payable: 3,400
- Accrued wages: 46,643
- Accrued vacation: 39,217
- Inventory held for others: 94,626

**Total current liabilities** $462,600

**NET ASSETS**
- Unrestricted
- Undesignated: 2,691,566
- Board designated: 459,840
- Temporarily restricted: 1,107,332

**TOTAL NET ASSETS** $4,258,738

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** $4,721,338

**Statement of Activities**

**Revenue and Support**
- Value of contributed inventory: $12,402,350
- Contributions: 1,801,628
- In-kind goods and services: 87,100
- Governmental program support: 370,151
- Investment income: 15,545
- Agency cooperative purchasing and fees: 206,626
- Realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments: -
- Miscellaneous: 7,902

**Total Revenue and Support** $14,891,302

**Net Assets Released From Restrictions** 1,539,532

**Total Unrestricted Revenue And Support** $16,430,834

**Expenses**
- Program Operations: $13,919,020
- Child Hunger: 1,160,207
- SNAP: 192,906
- Bridges Out of Poverty: 70,941
- Management & General: 360,920
- Fundraising: 671,775

**Total Expenses** $16,375,769

**Evidence of Impact**

“**You help families breathe a little easier, walk a little taller, and know they are visible and valued in Lincoln.**”

– Linda Kern, Family Resource Coordinator, Clinton Elementary School

“**Even though Food Bank donors don’t know me, and we’ll likely never meet, it makes me feel a little less insecure, less stressed, about being able to afford the necessities,” she said. “I appreciate their generosity. I know I have a purpose in the world. I’m determined to fulfill it.”**

– Jacqueline, client

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**Changes in Temporarily Restricted Net Assests**
- Food purchasing and contributions: $79,644
- Restricted grants and contributions: 1,658,522
- Total temporarily restricted revenue and support: 1,738,166
- Net assets release from restrictions: (1,539,532)
- Increase in temporarily restricted net assets: 198,634
- Increase in Net Assets: 253,699
- Net assets at beginning of year: 4,005,039
- Net assets at end of year: $4,258,738

**Expenses**
- **Management & General (2%)**
- **Fundraising (4%)**
- **Program Services (94%)**

**Food Source**

- **Government (11%)**
- **Purchased (12%)**
- **Food Bank Partners (4%)**
- **Manufacturers (28%)**
- **Food Drives & Misc. (8%)**
- **Retail & Wholesale Food Donors (37%)**
Local Chef Serves Up Helpings of Hope

Aaron Young has been cooking since age 5. He jokes that his passion for cooking began out of necessity. If he wanted something he was going to eat, his parents told him to ‘figure it out.’

“My mom hates it when I say that, but I still tease her,” said Young, the founder, owner, and executive chef at ChefauChef, a Lincoln-based catering and personal chef business. “But if she’s being honest, she’ll tell you she’s not a great cook, and my dad has mastered two — maybe three — dishes.” A love for cooking does run in the family, though. Both grandmothers knew their way around the kitchen. “I learned a lot from watching and helping them. My mom’s side of the family is from the Albuquerque area, so I know how to roll tamales and make fresh tortillas. My dad’s side is from Iowa and that grandmother taught me that a delicious meal could be both simple and delicious.”

Young believes in the power of food and its ability to unite. “Everyone has to eat. I have friends who view the world on opposite ends of the spectrum, but when we all sit down together, we can still come together over a delicious meal. That’s what food does.”

Young has been involved with the Food Bank for a few years, first as an Empty Bowls donor — earning the event’s coveted “Best of Show” award in 2017 for his Tomato, Basil, & Feta Bisque — and more recently with a meal service promotion. It’s called Wham Bam in a Pan, and it aims to provide busy individuals and families with delicious food made from quality, fresh ingredients. Each pan is sold for $20 each and provides enough to feed four adults. Due to his kitchen size and his demanding catering business, Young and his staff have to cap the total number of orders, which often sell out. In turn, he donates $1 from every order to the Food Bank. If you want to be among the first to know about the next Wham Bam in Pan, Young suggests signing up for the newsletter at www.chefauchef.com.

At the time this article was written, the popular hot meal service promotion has resulted in the equivalent of approximately 4,098 meals to the Food Bank. “Nothing feels better than giving. I don’t care if we’re talking about giving time, money, emotional support or lending a hand. I believe if you’ve been blessed, you should pay it forward.”