**JANUARY 2022** 



# **AGENCY NEWSLETTER**



## What is TEFAP?

You may or may not participate in the USDA/TEFAP program, but what is it really? The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federally-funded program that provides 100% American-grown USDA Foods and administrative funds to states to operate TEFAP. The amount of food each state receives out of the total amount of food provided is based on the number of unemployed persons and the number of people with incomes below the poverty level in the state. States provide the food to local agencies (FBS) that they have selected, usually food banks, which in turn distribute the food to local organizations (YOU!) The amount of food product agencies receive from the program is limited, hence the many rules we have to follow in order to receive the benefits that the TEFAP program has to offer. Food Banks and their agencies must take extreme care to use TEFAP product for *only* those who meet the program requirements. If you have questions about the USDA/TEFAP program, please let Jamie know.

> TEFAP Website: <u>https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program</u> TEFAP Fact Sheet: <u>https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/tefap-fact-sheet</u>



### **Director's Letter**



I hope your holiday season went well and your agency is ready for a new year!

Despite some unseasonably warm weather in December, we all know winter is coming and I wanted to remind you of the Food Bank winter protocols. If you are scheduled to receive a delivery or come here for a pickup and the weather is questionable, please check with the office first! Food Bank staff will generally follow the Sioux City Community Schools plans. However, staff will post information to Facebook and submit information about closing or opening delays to KCAU and KTIV. We will try to send emails out if we can to keep communication lines open. We will also try to update phone voice greetings.

Thank you to each of you and your agency staff/volunteers for all the great work you do. I believe feeding the food insecure is more than just our business — it is our passion. Thank you for joining us.





Join the Food Bank of Siouxland for our **18th Annual Empty Bowls** Fundraiser! This year's live event will include dinner, dancing, live music and auctions. Be part of a night of giving that you won't soon forget. This year we have a BIG announcement that you won't want to miss!

#### **Empty Bowls 2022**

Friday, February 4, 2022 at 5 PM Delta Hotels Center South Sioux City, NE

Tickets and sponsorships are still available online at <u>http://bidpal.net/emptybowls2022</u> or by calling the Food Bank office at 712-255-9741



**REMINDERS:** orders must be a <u>minimum</u> of 250 pounds to be delivered; orders must be submitted 48 business hours in advance, by noon

#### **Annual Usage Requirement 2022**

January 2022 marks the start of a new calendar year, which means that the annual usage requirements start anew as well. To aid in operating an effective and efficient food bank warehouse, each agency must order a minimum of 3,000 lbs. **or** place 18 orders over the course of a calendar year, whichever comes first. We value partnering with agencies that create impact for fighting hunger in our local communities. As we start to rebound and find new "normals" after the pandemic, the Food Bank will start to phase out pandemic-related accommodations and get back to more closely following the requirements in our agency agreement, which includes the annual usage requirement. If you have any questions or concerns about meeting this requirement in 2022, do not hesitate to reach out to Jamie.

#### **Off-the-Shelf Shopping**

Just a friendly reminder that you are welcome to shop off-the-shelf here at the Food Bank, with a maximum of 100 pounds per week. Produce, dairy, eggs, and other items selected by FBS staff are not included in this limit. Going forward, please allow a FBS warehouse staff member complete the off-the-shelf slip for you. This will help keep our processes streamlined and ensure slips are completed in entirety. Thank you for your cooperation!



#### **On the Menu Recipe: Oatmeal**

- Cook quick oats according to directions
- Mix-ins: dried or canned fruit, splash of milk, nuts, coconut chips
- Top with a dollup of peanut or almond butter

#### Please include your agency number on checks, not invoice number!



Office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Orders must be submitted 48 hours in advance and must be placed by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) or it will be considered "received" on the following business day (i.e. Order Monday at Noon for Wednesday). Orders must be submitted within the same month they are started.

Warehouse hours are 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Agencies may pick up orders during warehouse hours only.