



**TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007**

If we look at only one of our many Food Bank service programs at a time, we will only get a small snapshot of what we do, how we do it, who we help and why. In order to really understand the big picture, we need a little time to take a fresh look at a quick composite of what's going on among our numerous programs taking place and at work.

In a year's time, we disperse more than five million pounds of HungerCare supplies to an average of 30,000 food-insecure Kansans every week throughout the year. Our programs reach out to poor working families, impoverished seniors, the isolated rural poor, the urban homeless and the jobless—and all others caught in the trap of food-insecurity because of an endless variety of negative circumstances.

In a year's time, these programs will intervene more than a million and a half times to stop hunger before it happens in the lives of more than 100,000 people. And we will do it all in a service area covering 86 Kansas counties and 73,000 sq. mi. of the state.

The infrastructure that allows us to serve such a large and diverse area of responsibility includes our new Cargill Cares Complex central distribution center in Wichita, our Southeastern area distribution satellite in Independence and other drop-off sites in Dodge City, Garden City, Liberal, Emporia, Salina and Junction City.

For more than 20 years, this distribution system and the programs it serves has faithfully delivered HungerCare whenever, wherever needed by Kansas families and it continues to develop and evolve to meet ever-changing conditions. And we will continue to do so with your support and encouragement.

—Brian Walker, President/CEO

**CARRYIN' ON!** Since the early 1990's, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) has conducted an annual fundraising drive to benefit food banks across the nation. Here in Wichita these 14 annual drives have donated 1,177,586 pounds of food for your Food Bank to supply HungerCare needs in the 86 Kansas counties we serve. Last year's NALC Drive collected more than 60 tons of food for HungerCare!

This year will be the 15th anniversary of the NALC Food Drive. It will be held on Saturday, May 12, and it may well set a new record for the Wichita area. Letter carriers on that day will be collecting nonperishable food donations along their routes for donation to the Kansas Food Bank. If you and other contributors will place nonperishable food donations near their mailbox, letter carriers will pick them up.

You can further help by passing the word along to your friends—and they to their friends and on and on... With that kind of chain reaction going on, our Wichita NALC chapter can keep on carryin' on to produce even more gratifying results.

Remember: Food for NALC pick-up goes out this coming Saturday, May 12.

**BEST FRIENDS** are those who do especially kind and generous things out of the goodness of their heart—and from the truth of the need. The K.T. Wiedemann Foundation is such a best friend of our Food 4 Kids Backpack program. The Foundation was among the very first few major donors whose generosity actually allowed us to start up the Backpack program and to immediately put it into operation.

Now the K.T. Wiedemann Foundation has provided a second key contribution in the amount of \$25,000. This latest gift comes at a time when the continuing growth of the Backpack program can make needed use of all the support it can get. The Wiedemann contribution will, for example, fund more than 8,300 packets of weekend food for hungry children. This same best friend has also steadily supported other Food Bank programs over the years.

The work of the Wiedemann Foundation is based on its namesake's vision for a finer quality of life within Wichita and Kansas. It has supported hundreds of charities in areas primarily in Kansas relating to the arts, health, children and youth, the elderly and the disadvantaged contributing millions of dollars to these worthy causes.

**TOYS FROM TOTS** could well have been the theme of this year's annual service project carried out by all 17 students in the kindergarten class at Central Christian Academy. After learning how the KFB Food 4 Kids Backpack program serves hungry school children over weekends, they voted unanimously to make us the beneficiary of their service project.

With the help of their teacher Rebecca Terronez and her two service project monitors, school moms Lesa Popiel and Jodi Dopps, they carried out a remarkably creative fundraising idea. Each of the students donated three toys of their own, which were then sold at a garage sale for a grand total of \$107. This amount was later presented to Food 4 Kids Backpack program coordinator Larry Gunkel when the class, their teacher and several school moms toured the Food Bank.

In addition to the cash, some students brought along food contributions as icing on the cake. Members of our employee team who met the children during their tour will long remember some very special kids with a very special gift for the Food Bank. And "Toys FROM Tots" emerged as a good lesson for life for all involved.



Kindergarten kids help out at garage sale.



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If you're new, we welcome you!

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