

1919 E. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67211 Tel: 316-265-3663  
Fax: 316-265-9747 info@kansasfoodbank.org www.kansasfoodbank.org

### TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2011

This March, your Kansas Food Bank is recognizing National Nutrition Month® in honor of the nearly 49 million Americans that lack access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life.

Right now, 1 in 6 Americans is struggling with hunger. Though we cannot tell who is hungry from the clothes people wear, the jobs they work, or the color of their skin, an apple a day is out of reach for nearly 49 million Americans. Approximately 14.5 percent of American households lack access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life.

Here at the Kansas Food Bank, we have made a commitment to increase the amount of fresh produce we offer to our agency partners. Because of this, our produce distribution jumped from 200,000 pounds in 2010 to just over 1 million pounds in 2011. And for 2012, we are projected to distribute 1.5 million pounds.

Fresh produce is often the first thing that gets cut from the grocery budget for cash strapped families. Those at risk of hunger often cannot afford preventative and follow-up healthcare services. For this vulnerable population, access to nutritious foods is vital in maintaining good health. We would not be able to continue this critical work and provide nutritious foods without the support of our community.

Together, we can provide hope to Kansans in need for a better, healthier tomorrow.

Sincerely,  
Brian Walker, President / CEO

### AGENCY SPOTLIGHT



It always makes us proud when agencies go that extra step and Streetlight Ministries took an extra big leap this past month. We often refer to them as the little pantry that could. Because when they set their minds to it, nothing is out of reach. Last summer Streetlight was dealt a blow when the building they were operating out of behind their ministry house was zoned residential, not commercial. This caused them to have to give up their pantry that was serving on average 150 families per week. For weeks their director questioned what they should be doing. Finally, in November they secured a new location on and they have been going strong ever since. However, there was still something more that they wanted to do. They approached us about running a mobile pantry to Arlington, a small community west of Hutchinson that does not have a local pantry. They wanted to take our new concept of mobile pantries and do one themselves. So on Feb 22nd, they loaded up on our dock and headed west. In the end they served 75 families from Arlington and the surrounding communities. We are very proud of Streetlight as one of our Hunger Care partners!

### FOLLOW THE FOOD

Last month we told you about the operations and schedule here at your Kansas Food Bank. This month, let's follow the food! What exactly happens to the food that is brought into the warehouse and placed in the bin at the front desk? First it goes off to the sort room where it is packed with like items in boxes. From there, it moves to the racks where it awaits an agency order. Once asked for by one of our partner agencies, it goes onto a pallet with all the other items the agency ordered and it is ready for pick up or transport to the agency. At the agency, it gets unloaded onto their shelves and is ready for its final destination, to a family home where it will be greatly appreciated.



From Your Home to Theirs – Making a Difference, One Donation at a Time

**FOOD BANK FUN FACT** - A truckload of potatoes weighs 40,000 pounds. That is 8,000 five pound bags. In just two short weeks we distribute those potatoes to our Hunger Care Partners who quickly place them in the hands of families in need all across our service area.