

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012

Every community in the country is at risk of natural disaster. Natural disasters are occurring with more frequency and severity in our country than ever before. We experienced this first hand with the devastating tornado that touched down in Oaklawn right in our own back yard a few weeks ago.

In any type of crisis, food banks play a vital role in supplying disaster relief. Your Kansas Food Bank is part of a proven plan of action with Feeding America member food banks that is ready to take move quickly and efficiently in times of need. Emergency food and personal care items most frequently requested by individuals and families immediately following a disaster are staged in strategically-designated locations throughout the nation to facilitate quick response to disaster.

We are the silent force that works behind the scenes with our agency partners who are the first responders. With the recent tornado we were honored to stand behind our friends from the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, and First Metropolitan Community Church to ensure tornado victims were receiving the basic necessities to help our community in this critical time of need. We are proud to provide disaster relief to the areas we serve, and we are grateful for the support from our community, which allows us to continue this important work.

Sincerely,
Brian Walker, President / CEO



Senior Services, Inc.
of Wichita

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – May is Older American Month. Who better to feature than our partner agency Senior Services, Inc. of Wichita. While they have many programs for seniors, they are perhaps best known for their Meals on Wheels program which provides meals to more than 875 homebound seniors in Wichita every Monday-Friday. Studies indicate that Kansas is ranked 27th in the nation for food insecurity in seniors, with 5-6% of seniors 60 and older having limited or little access to food. Senior Services' own study of clients shows that 68% of Meals on Wheels clients say the volunteer driver who brings them their daily meal is the only person they see on a regular basis. Clearly, Senior Services is a vital link bringing food, support, and security to those in need. Learn more online: www.seniorservicesofwichita.org

ANNOUNCING: INVEST AN ACRE – This new program, sponsored by ADM, the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, and Feeding America, targets farmers across our state and asks them to donate an acre of their crops to hunger relief. The program is simple, the farmer designates an acre of a crop they bring in after harvest to their local ADM grain elevator for the program, and the cash value of that acre's worth of crops is donated on their behalf. 100% of that donation will be received by your Kansas Food Bank! On average, every bushel of corn can help secure 18 meals and a bushel of soybeans can help secure up to 40 meals.



www.investanacre.com



FROM THE FARM TO THE PANTRY – For the past two years CHS and United Plains Ag in Tribune and Quinter have held Harvest for Hunger to benefit Kansas Food Bank partners in their area. We are pleased to announce that the donation this year of \$18,517 will provide our pantry partners with much needed hunger relief. Just like the new Invest an Acre program, it all started with the generosity of the farmers and their crops.

LETTER CARRIER FOOD DRIVE – Just a few short days away, Saturday, May 12, the annual NALC food drive will take place. Letter carriers across the state will be delivering specially marked bags, generously provided by NetApp, to home mailboxes. Residents fill the bags with non-perishable foods and place them back by their mailbox where letter carriers will retrieve and bring the collected food to us. From there, it is distributed to our partner agencies where it goes directly to a family in need. Make sure you watch for your blue bag to be delivered this week!



FOOD BANK FUN FACT – Since we began working with the Letter Carrier Food Drive, the pounds of food have kept rolling in, growing to almost a quarter million pounds every spring thanks to folks like you!