

Summer 2012

# seeds *of hope*



Thank You  
for Helping  
Fight  
Summer  
Hunger!

KANSAS  
**food bank**  
HELPING THE HUNGRY • SINCE 1984  
A Member of **FEEDING AMERICA**



**Brian Walker**  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

## THANK YOU FOR FEEDING KANSAS KIDS

Dear Friend,

Summer has to be my favorite time of the year. I'm all for backyard barbecues and vacations, but the best part of this season for me is watching my kids step up to bat.

My boys have always played sports...basketball and baseball. But something most take for granted is nutrition. Without regular nutrition to fuel their bodies, they wouldn't be nearly as competitive. Without access to balanced meals they'd also face more challenges at school, develop at a slower rate and get frustrated more easily. By feeding my kids well, I've prepared them to not only thrive on the baseball diamond, but in all areas of life.

Like most parents, I'm dedicated to giving my children every opportunity. But unfortunately, not all parents have the means to do so. For families who depend on free and reduced-price meals during the school year, summertime can come as an exceptional financial blow. More children are at risk for going to bed hungry during the next few months than during any other season of the year.

As a friend of the Kansas Food Bank, I know you want to help parents in need raise healthy, active kids. And your gifts to the [Kansas Food Bank](#) are helping stock food pantry shelves and fund our summer feeding programs. You're helping prepare children for success – now and in the future.

Please take some time to read through these accounts of families and individuals overcoming summer hunger. This would not be possible without your support to the Kansas Food Bank.

Thank you for all you do to help combat hunger during the summer and all year long. Your support makes such a difference for our neighbors in need.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### CHAIRMAN

Doug Jenkins, *Professional Software, Inc.*

#### FIRST VICE CHAIR

John Keating, *Cargill Meat Solutions*

#### SECOND VICE CHAIR

Don Meiergerd, *Excel Food Distribution – Retired*

#### SECRETARY

Virginia Ablah, *Ablah Enterprises, Inc.*

#### TREASURER

Sam Seward, *M&L CPAs Chartered*

#### PRESIDENT & CEO

Brian Walker

### DIRECTORS

Lionel Alford, Jr., *Engineering Consultant*

Joan Barrett, *KWCH TV – Channel 12*

Dale G. Diggs, Jr., *Diggs Construction, LLC*

Kenny Doonan, *Doonan Truck & Equipment of Wichita, Inc.*

Pastor Junius Dotson, *Saint Mark United Methodist Church*

Helen Galloway, *The First Place*

Cindy Halsey, *Cessna Aircraft Co.*

Doug Jenkins, *Professional Software, Inc.*

Michael Johnston, *Kansas Turnpike Authority*

Roger Kepley

Dana Knott, *Dillon Stores*

Patric Rowley, *Patric Rowley & Partners*

James (Mike) Rush, *The Boeing Company*

Jim Shelden, *Retired Raytheon/CEI*

Virginia and Paul Treadwell

Jim Urso, *Spirit Aerosystems*

### KANSAS FOOD BANK – EASTERN REGION

Cora Stokes, *SRS*

### EMERITUS BOARD

Tom Kitch, *Fleeson, Gooing, Coulson & Kitch*

J.V. Lentell, *Intrust Bank, N.A.*

John E. Moore, *Lt. Governor – Retired*

Dr. Charles Wood, *Estate Planning Consultant*



# YOU KEEP OUR COMMUNITY'S CHILDREN HEALTHY AND ACTIVE

Liliana is the mother of four active children, who range from 4 to 11 years of age. Her kids love to play at the park, ride bikes and kick the soccer ball around, but towards the end of the month during the summer, she says they rarely have the energy to stay so active.

Without the free hot breakfasts and lunches her school-aged children depend on when class is in session, keeping the kids full enough to run, jump and play is a difficult task for Liliana.

Liliana and her children have been through a lot since the loss of their husband and father. Since he passed away, Liliana is the kids' full-time caregiver, and doesn't

“This helps my kids so that they don't have to go to bed hungry.”

receive much income beyond her late husband's Social Security benefits. When each summer month is about half-finished, her budget

is often too thin to provide healthy meals.

Because of friends like you, Liliana is able to visit the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry at First Metropolitan Community Church, a [Food Bank](#) hunger-relief partner.

The pantry is a much-needed resource for Liliana and others in the Wichita area – during her last visit she, her mother, Antonia, and her youngest daughter, Mia, waited more than two hours to receive a box containing a week's worth of food for their family.

Liliana is more than happy to wait for nutritious food that she can use to prepare balanced meals for her children. She's so appreciative of your gifts, which help keep her from resorting to cheap and often unhealthy fast-food meals.



Liliana and Mia

“Thank you a lot,” she says to donors like you. “This helps my kids so that they don't have to go to bed hungry.”

Families across Kansas face hardships everyday. Whether they're dealing with the loss of a spouse who'd been the primary breadwinner, the loss of a job, a serious illness or simply struggling to keep up with high summer utility bills, your support means the world to our hungry neighbors.



# YOU'RE HELPING FIGHT SUMMER HUNGER!



Young Kansans have brighter futures, thanks to you.



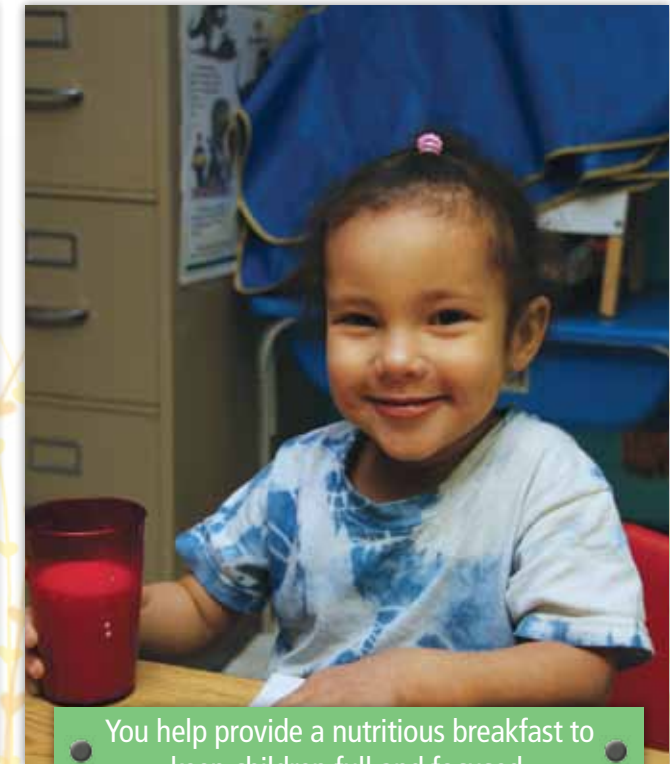
Neighbors of all ages count on your support.



Your generosity mean kids in need have enough to eat.



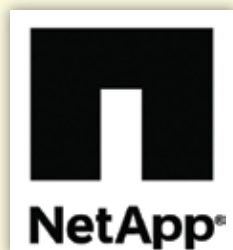
Parents can provide for their children with your help.



You help provide a nutritious breakfast to keep children full and focused.

## Stamping Out Hunger

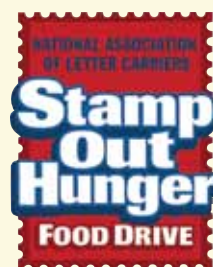
May 12 marked the 20th year that the Kansas Food Bank has benefitted from the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive. This is the largest one-day, food drive event that the Food Bank participates in. This year we worked diligently to bring more communities in our service area on board with this event. Thanks to a generous donation of over 270,000 donation bags



from NetApp, we were able to once again collect tens of thousands of pounds of food that helps get our agencies through the summer months when many families rely on our pantry partners to help them.

## Dine in, Drive Thru or Carry Out, All Ways to Help Feed a Child

Fugate Enterprises, which owns 47 Taco Bell and 51 Pizza Hut locations



across the [Kansas Food Bank](#) service area, is kicking off its latest campaign to support the Food 4 Kids program. Fugate has been instrumental this past year in promoting the Food 4 Kids program for us. At each of their stores, between July 9 and August 5, each dining customer will be asked to donate \$1 to the Food 4 Kids backpack program. Funds raised in each community will be committed to the backpack program serving that location. Not only is this a great way to start raising funds for the program, it is an excellent way for us to raise

awareness about childhood hunger on the local level.

## Outnumber Hunger

Through Feeding America's new partnership, when you buy participating General Mills products, you can enter the code on the box online and your Kansas Food



Bank will receive a donation worth five meals! Look for the Outnumber Hunger logo on products at the store, then go online at [outnumberhunger.com](#) to enter your code to help fight Hunger in our community!

## Kids Eat Free This Summer

The USDA Summer Food Service Program kicks off on May 30 and will run until July 27. Children 18 and younger will be able to receive a free meal at various sites around

Wichita. For a complete listing, please visit our website at [kansasfoodbank.org](#). In addition, the Kansas Food Bank



will be joining with Partners for Wichita once again to "Fill the Gap" by providing meals during the weeks between the end of the Summer Food Service Program and the start of the new school year.



# USING RETIREMENT DAYS TO IMPACT FAMILIES IN NEED



Joellen Taube

When saving for retirement, most folks look forward to playing relaxing games of golf, watching the world roll by through their RV windows or settling down for afternoon naps. Joellen Taube has none of the former on her "golden years" to-do list.

If you'd like to volunteer at the Kansas Food Bank, contact Larry Gunkel at [lgunkel@kansasfoodbank.org](mailto:lgunkel@kansasfoodbank.org).

After 20 years as a school secretary, Joellen continues being productive as a [Food Bank](#) volunteer. For the past five months, she's been supporting our efforts to fight hunger by becoming an active part of various hunger-relief projects.

Joellen puts her secretarial skills to good use helping the Food Bank file heaps of paperwork, and this past winter, she traveled to Garnett, KS with staff to assist a mobile pantry distribution. Even amid fierce winds and 20-degree temperatures, Joellen was able to help feed more than 110 rural neighbors that day.

Through working at a Food Bank backpack site and from

watching kids receive packs at the school where she used to work, Joellen has seen the difference the Food Bank's Food 4 Kids program makes in the lives of hungry children. She recalls the excitement and pride of kids checking out the weekend food in their specially prepared packs.

Joellen has also been personally impacted by Food 4 Kids. Last year her grandson received backpacks for a short while after his mother lost her job. Joellen says she is motivated to support the Food Bank because of the help it was able to provide for her family during their time of need.

Joellen also gives her time at her local humane society, volunteers at a hospice, substitute teaches and takes her therapy dogs on visits to nursing homes in her area. She says volunteering puts things in perspective for her in retirement.

"It helps me feel better about myself," Joellen says. "I am more determined to directly impact the lives of families in need."

# HOMELESS FAMILIES HAVE HOPE BECAUSE OF YOU

Nikkia and her children Brennan, 9, and Brielle, 5, were already struggling to make ends meet when their home recently caught fire. Not long before the fire, Nikkia had broken her ankle, keeping her from working at her retail job, meaning her budget was extraordinarily tight. When their ceiling fan had an electrical short and sparked devastating flames, the family went from struggling to get by to absolutely hopeless.

Losing her home and most of her family's belongings has been really hard on Nikkia, and on her budget. Brennan and Brielle are on the free and reduced-price lunch program at their school, but when



Brielle

live, Nikkia couldn't figure out how she was going to afford a nearly doubled grocery bill.

Thankfully, Nikkia has found help for her family during this difficult time at Salvation Army Homeless Services in Wichita, a [Food Bank](#) hunger-relief partner. Now she, Brennan and Brielle have a place to stay and plenty of nutritious food to eat until she's able to go back to work and her family can recover from their loss.

"We wouldn't have anywhere to go without this place," Nikkia says.

As a mindful and caring mother,

she's especially appreciative of the balanced meals the Salvation Army provides for her children, and she knows they wouldn't have access to these vital meals without your generous support.

"It's very important that [my children] eat nutritious food," says Nikkia. "Thank you! It's a blessing that there's help for people who can't provide for themselves."

Your gifts have truly given Nikkia's family the hope they need to overcome their present hardship. Thank you for supporting families in need.

---

“It's a blessing  
that there's help  
for people who  
can't provide for  
themselves.”

---

summer's here, those meals go on hiatus. Along with the stress and expense of securing a new place to

# YOU HELP DESERVING CAREGIVERS PROVIDE NEEDED SUMMER MEALS



Bonnie

Sometimes having a job just isn't enough to provide for one's family. Bonnie has a good job in the home healthcare field and since her children are all grown, she was able to easily support herself on her income. But now that she's caring for her four young grandchildren, she realizes that her once-sufficient income can barely cover her family's living expenses.

One of the most expensive responsibilities of raising four children is making sure they're well fed. It's easier during the

school year, but when school lets out for summer break, Bonnie must also make up for the free breakfasts and lunches three of her grandkids currently receive at school.

Fortunately, Bonnie discovered the food pantry at College Hill United Methodist Church, a [Kansas Food Bank](#) hunger-relief partner. Once a month she's able to pick up a sack of non-perishable groceries to help feed her family

during the hungry summer months. She and her grandkids also love to visit the church's free community breakfast every third Saturday.

Bonnie says she's so relieved to receive the food, which helps greatly in feeding the children before her paycheck comes at the end of each month. She's also grateful for the regained sense of independence – she can provide meals for her family without burdening her friends, most of whom will also have trouble putting food on the table this

summer. She's so thankful for your support that makes all this possible.

"Thank you for your help, we appreciate everything you can offer," Bonnie says, adding with a

---

**“It would be extremely difficult to live without this assistance.”**

---

heavy sigh of relief, "It would be extremely difficult to live without this assistance."

This summer Bonnie's grandchildren and thousands of other Kansas kids will be able to eat, grow, run and play thanks to your support. You truly make a difference!



1919 E. Douglas  
Wichita, KS 67211

316.265.4421  
[www.kansasfoodbank.org](http://www.kansasfoodbank.org)



Be our fan on Facebook!  
[facebook.com/KansasFoodBank](https://facebook.com/KansasFoodBank)  
You can also follow us on Twitter!  
[twitter.com/KansasFoodBank](https://twitter.com/KansasFoodBank)