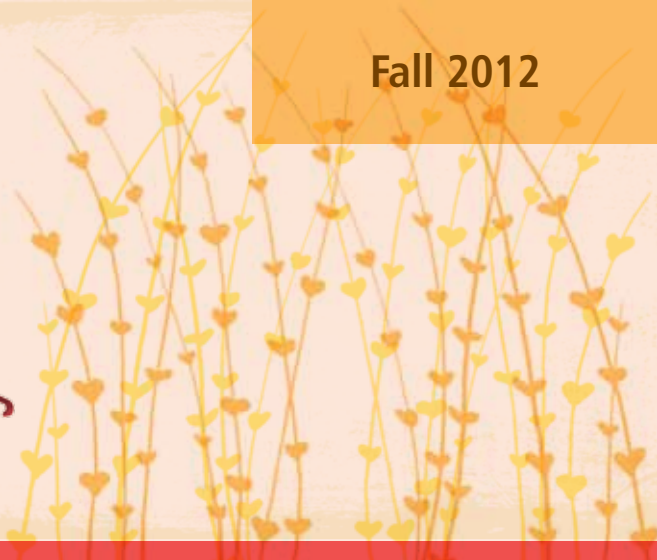


Fall 2012

seeds *of hope*



**You're
Helping
Kids
Succeed!**

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,

As students throughout our 85-county service area are shopping for pencils, notebooks and binders this month, staff and volunteers here at the [Kansas Food Bank](#) are working hard to stock backpacks with one of the most important school supplies – food.

One in six Kansas children is at risk of going hungry on any given day. Fortunately, about 70 percent of kids in our state receive free or reduced price school meals. When these students go home for the weekend, though, they could be looking ahead to two full days of hunger.

Because you support the Kansas Food Bank, we're able to ensure thousands of children will have access to nutritious food every weekend of the school year with our Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, and every day after school with our Kids Kitchens.

I'm so encouraged by the response to Cargill's offer to match all funds donated to Food 4 Kids this summer, and I can't wait to share the final match total with you as soon as the results are in!

In addition to Food 4 Kids, we're providing access to nutritious groceries for children, families and individuals through food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and senior delivery programs – all made possible by your contributions.

Please take some time to read about the difference your support is making in the lives of neighbors across Kansas. Your gifts are such a lifeline to struggling families.

Thank you for continuing to stand with us in the fight against hunger. Your help means so much to Kansans in need.

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THANK YOU FOR HELPING FAMILIES GROW STRONG AND HEALTHY

Beatrize and Javier are crazy about their precious children Joanna, 13, Edgar, 11, Ashley, 4, and Kamila, 6 months. They do their best to provide for all the kids' needs, but it's been tough for Javier to find enough hours of work.

Javier works in construction, but finding enough work to make a substantial income has been a challenge for him. Bad weather and oppressively hot summer days, a previous back injury that continues to trouble him and recent car problems all limit the amount of work he can do each month.

Your gifts have made such an impact in the lives of Beatriz, Javier and their children. This past

“This food means so much to my family and I.”

summer, their kids were able to eat full, balanced meals at a community



Beatrize, Kamila, Joanna, Ashley and Edgar

Summer Feeding site to fuel days of soccer games and playtime at the park.

And when the kitchen shelves are empty at home, Beatrize stops by His Helping Hands, a [Food Bank](#) hunger-relief partner in Wichita. Once a month she can pick up a box of nutritious groceries. Joanna and Edgar especially like the frozen pizzas that come in the boxes and the dishes their mom is able to cook with the potatoes they receive.

Javier is actively looking for a more secure job and he's trying

to save money so he can have the family car fixed and therefore have more options for work. But until he can accomplish these goals, he and Beatrize are so grateful that you help to keep their children from going to bed hungry.

“Thank you for this – it really helps,” Beatrize says. “This food means so much to my family and I.”

Your continued partnership means the world to struggling families. Thank you for helping us put food on the tables of neighbors who need it most!

YOU'RE PROVIDING NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED!



Young Kansans can grow up strong and healthy with your support.



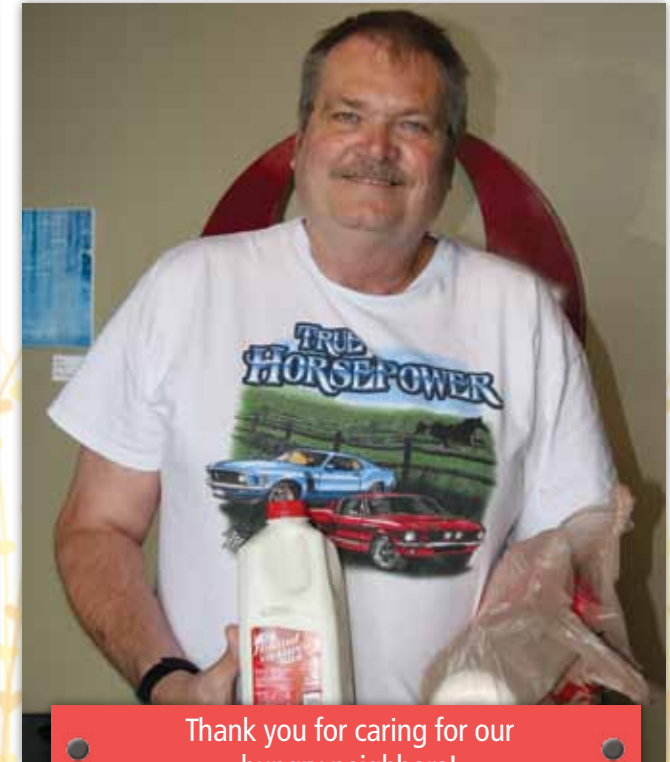
Parents can provide for their children, thanks to you.



You help feed Kansans going through difficult times.



Hungry children have enough to eat, thanks to you!



Thank you for caring for our hungry neighbors!

Hog Wild Guests Turn Spare Change into Square Meals

Our friends at Hog Wild Pit BBQ made the commitment this year to support the [Kansas Food Bank](#) as their charity of choice. In addition to their \$1,000 monthly donation, they have challenged their customers to "Turn your spare change into a meal for a hungry Kansan" – and customers have been very responsive! We are always



amazed at how quickly change can add up when everyone donates just a little bit. So next time you are hungry for some tasty barbecue, drop by Hog Wild at one of their locations in Wichita, Hutchinson or Salina...but don't be late – they close at eight!

Food 4 Kids Going Strong

The Food 4 Kids area of our warehouse is in full gear! Earlier this month, volunteers prepared for packing season to stock elementary schools with backpacks of nutritious, kid-friendly meals for chronically hungry students. With the capability of two

assembly lines, food packets are being put together in a flurry of activity – it takes considerable volunteer effort to help turn out the nearly 6,500 packets needed each week for participating



schools! For information about how you can help fill bags for children in need, contact Larry at 316-265-3663. Volunteers are needed to help between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Invest an Acre

This new program – sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland Company (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. Farmers simply designate an acre of a crop they bring in after harvest and send it to their local ADM grain elevator for the



program. The cash value of that acre's worth of crops is then

donated on their behalf to the 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. To learn more about this exciting new initiative, please visit [investanacre.org](#).

Hunger Action Month

September is Hunger Action Month, and we are asking everyone across Kansas to take action against hunger in their communities, all month long! Hunger Action Month is your opportunity to join a movement that has a real and lasting impact on our efforts to feed more hungry Kansans

than ever before. Whether it's by speaking out and raising awareness, making donations or volunteering, everyone can find a way to make a difference during Hunger Action Month.

The Kansas Food Bank invites you to visit Friday, September 14 and take a tour of the warehouse or join in our largest one-day volunteer event. For more information, visit our website at [kansasfoodbank.org](#).



THANK YOU, CORA!



Cora Stokes

Cora Stokes, pastor at Sincere Praise Ministries in Neodesha, Kansas, has been a dedicated [Kansas Food Bank](#) volunteer for the past 15 years. In partnership with the Food Bank, she provides nutritious groceries for about 80 families throughout Wilson County each month.

If you'd like to volunteer at the Kansas Food Bank, contact Larry Gunkel at lgunkel@kansasfoodbank.org.

She loves Neodesha's close-knit community and can identify with many of the parents she helps through her hunger-relief ministry. As a single mother of three grown children, she's no stranger to challenging times.

"Having been a single parent, working full time, I know how

difficult it is," Cora says. "There is a satisfaction knowing that I have helped my fellow neighbor."

She noticed a spike in the number of families she serves during the summer as children were without the dependable school meal programs they have access to when classes are in session. She knows the emergency food boxes she delivered to

homebound seniors were a real lifeline, too, considering they were paying high summer utility bills on fixed incomes.

Cora's so happy you give to the Food Bank so she can provide this much-needed resource to her Wilson County neighbors in need.

“There is a satisfaction knowing that I have helped my fellow neighbor.”

"We do what we do because of your generous donations," she says. "We are able to reach more struggling families because of you. Thanks!"

Thank you to Cora and to generous Food Bank friends like you who make her work possible. You make such a difference in our community!

YOU BRING RELIEF TO STRUGGLING PARENTS



Craig and April Carter

Craig and April are newlyweds and are thrilled to be starting a new life together with April's 8-year-old son.

Unfortunately, Craig lost his job delivering books shortly after the wedding, so the young family is currently without an income.

As the couple scrambles to find new positions, they can barely afford to pay rent and keep their electricity from being shut off.

April's son receives free meals at school, but in the evenings and during breaks, the family can't

afford to keep the pantry full – not without your help.

"Without this place, we would

“You don't know how much this helps.”

probably starve,” April says with concern.

Your gifts help families like

Craig and April's every day. Thanks to your support, they're able to visit the food pantry at New Beginnings Adventist Church, a [Kansas Food Bank](#) hunger-relief partner in Wichita.

The canned goods, meat, cereal and fresh fruits and vegetables they receive give the couple a sense of security knowing their son won't have to go to bed hungry and they won't have to skip meals to feed him.

As they continue to seek work in the hopes of soon becoming a self-sufficient family, Craig and April are so grateful for your generosity in the meantime.

"Thank you!" April says. "You don't know how much this helps."

Your giving is such a relief to parents anxiously trying to provide for their children. Thank you for bringing hope to people who need it most!

YOU GIVE CHILDREN ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD, EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK!



With more than 94 percent of students on the free and reduced-price meal program, Anderson Elementary in Wichita has a clear need for access to regular nutrition.

The children who attend Anderson are fortunate to have the Food 4 Kids program at their school, and to have a dedicated Backpack Program coordinator, Freida Andrews. Freida even spent some of her summer vacation days preparing backpacks with nutritious, kid-friendly food

items for students so they won't have to go hungry on Saturdays and Sundays.

Freida has heard numerous success stories of happier attitudes, less agitation and more focus from teachers of students who receive the packs. But the program's significance really struck Freida when she met a family who's being impacted by the weekend packs.

She went on a home visit to meet with the family of one of her

students, which turned out to be a heartbreaking trip. They didn't have a refrigerator, and there was no food in their home. Freida hadn't realized before how real – and great – the need is for some of her students, and she's glad the Backpack Program is helping her build trusting relationships with parents.

As Frieda gains a better understanding of some of her students' unstable situations, she feels so grateful for donors like you

who help provide the safety net of a food-filled backpack for children from food-insecure homes.

“Thank you for changing the life of children here in our community.”

“Thank you for changing the life of children here in our community,” Frieda says. “Your continued support to the [Food Bank](#) is greatly appreciated.”

Thank you for looking out for children at risk of missing meals!



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