

# SEEDS OF HOPE

YOU'RE HELPING  
FEED CHILDREN  
THIS SUMMER!



KANSAS  
**food  
bank**  
HELPING THE HUNGRY • SINCE 1984

MEMBER OF  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**

# DEAR FRIEND,

With just days left in the school year, children across Kansas are looking forward to summer vacation. But for children from families who are barely making it, there won't be much to celebrate when that last school bell rings.

During the school year, many children receive daily nourishment through free and reduced-price meal programs. This assistance gives struggling parents a much-needed hand up, allowing them to stretch their small grocery budgets just a little bit further.

I know you agree that no child should ever go hungry. But when school lets out for the summer, thousands of kids lose access to school meals. Once this happens, many parents will need all the help they can get to provide additional breakfasts, lunches and healthy snacks for their children.

Thankfully, your generosity ensures that children won't have to miss critical meals this summer — or any time of the year.

As soon as school ends, parents like Maria will be able to receive good, nutritious food through one of our many partner agencies. Because you give, her three school-aged children will have the fuel they need to keep them thriving. You can read her full story on page 8.

Thank you so much for your support. Your gifts are helping us make sure no child in [Kansas](#) goes hungry this summer.



**Brian Walker**  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

## Board of Directors

### CHAIRMAN

Doug Jenkins  
Professional Software, Inc.

### FIRST VICE CHAIR

John Keating  
Cargill Meat Solutions

### SECOND VICE CHAIR

Don Meiergerd  
Retired Excel Food Distribution

### SECRETARY

Jim Shelden  
Retired Ratheon/CEI

### 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

Dan Eilert, Intrust Bank  
Helen Galloway, The First Place  
Clark Goetzinger, Westar Energy  
Michael Johnston

Roger Kepley, Rose Hill Bank  
Dana Knott, Dillon Stores  
Rebecca Rather

Jim Urso, Spirit Aerosystems  
Tim Zynda, Concrete Materials Company

### 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



# PARENTS CAN FEED THEIR CHILDREN, THANKS TO YOU

**W**ith summer just around the corner, Rosa and her husband Clemente have some tough decisions to make. Money's tighter than ever, and that means when school's out, providing extra meals for their three children — Vanessa, Mariela and Clemente, Jr., — won't be easy.

Recently, Clemente spent more than a month at home recovering from knee surgery. He's back on the job now, but business is slow at the auto repair shop where he works. Rosa says that as their utility and medical bills keep piling up, their grocery budget is shrinking.

To help keep her fridge stocked

with enough fresh food for her children, Rosa's been visiting the food pantry at Catholic Charities, a [Kansas Food Bank](#) hunger-relief partner in Wichita. For the past seven months, the family has received nutritious food she can use to make balanced meals. This summer, Rosa and Clemente's children will have the energy they need to stay active and keep their minds and bodies growing strong.

---

**“Thank you so much  
for your help.”**

---

“I really love the variety and quality of food that my family receives,” she says.

Because you give to the Food Bank, Rosa's family has hope this summer and all year long. Through your generosity, you're ensuring that children like Vanessa, Mariela and Clemente, Jr. have enough fresh fruits, veggies and other nutritious foods to stay healthy and return to school ready to learn.

You've already done a lot for Rosa's family while they work through their financial challenges — and she's so grateful for your compassion.

“Thank you so much for your help,” she says. “My family really appreciates the support.”



Rosa and Clemente, Jr.,  
Catholic Charities



# THANK YOU FOR FIGHTING SUMMER HUNGER!



## Feeding Kids this Summer



For many Kansas children from low-income families, summer can be the hungriest time of the year. Without help, these kids' health is in serious jeopardy. Fortunately, the Kansas Food Bank has several programs in place to provide meals to hungry children this summer.

## USDA Summer Food Service Program

By working with the Kansas State Department of Education, the [Kansas Food Bank](#) will serve as a sponsor for 12 sites participating in the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Those sites are located across the state — mostly in rural areas like Americus, Eureka, Fort Scott, Hartford, Johnson City, LaCygne, Leoti, Little River, Marion, Neosho Rapids Peabody and Ulysses.

## Northeast Kansas Community Action Program

In north central Kansas, we're partnering with Northeast Kansas Community Action Program (NEK-CAP), to provide summer meals in Belleville, Beloit, Mankato, Osborne and Smith Center.

## Filling the Gap

We will also be helping Partners for Wichita provide meals at 16 sites for Filling the Gap during the last two weeks of summer, after the USDA program ends.

In addition to these programs, we're working closely with the communities of El Dorado, Hutchinson, Larned, Rose Hill, Scott City and Tribune again this year to help get summer meals to hungry kids.

## Letter Carriers Deliver

May 9th was the annual National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive. This event is the largest one-day food drive for the Kansas Food Bank. This year,



**NetApp®**

over 250,000 meals were collected through the efforts of participating communities. We'd like to give a special thanks to Net App for sponsoring the blue collection bags in Wichita!

## Plant a Row



tradition of sharing a bountiful garden harvest with others. It's a program for home gardeners who want to help the hungry living in their own communities.

Plant a Row for the Hungry is rooted in the

Through a cooperative effort between the Sedgwick County Master Gardeners and the [Kansas Food Bank](#), individual home gardeners can make a tremendous impact on the widespread hunger problem in Kansas. During the growing season, the Kansas Food Bank will pick up your produce from local garden centers, which will serve as convenient drop-off sites.

One pound at a time...one row at a time. Together we make a difference.



# RACHEL HUGHES AND JEFF YAGER HAVE A PASSION FOR FIGHTING HUNGER

As co-chairs of the [Kansas Food Bank](#) volunteer committee at Spirit Aerosystems Inc., Rachel Hughes and Jeff Yager have a real passion for fighting hunger.

“It’s exciting to be a part of the Food Bank, knowing that you’re helping children,” says Jeff, a member of the quality assurance team.

As for Rachel, an assistant to the chief financial officer, making an immediate impact in her community is what she loves.

---

**“It’s exciting to be a part of the Food Bank.”**

---

This will be Rachel and Jeff’s second year leading their company’s volunteer efforts, which mainly focus on supporting the *Food 4 Kids* program. For the past five years, this has meant sending 25 to 35 volunteers and their families to the Food Bank every second Saturday to help fill bags with nutritious food for hungry children.

Both Rachel and Jeff agree that it’s been a rewarding experience serving their community — especially when so many of their fellow employees continue to show support for the Food Bank. Sometimes so many of their coworkers want to volunteer



that they have to schedule their volunteer hours a month or more in advance.

“The efforts of Rachel and Jeff help ensure that no child goes hungry, and I can’t thank them and the many Spirit volunteers and their families enough,” says Jim Urso, vice

president of fabrication at Spirit and Kansas Food Bank board member.

We’re also grateful for you Rachel, Jeff, and everyone at Spirit Aerosystems, Inc. for your compassion. When you give your time, you help ensure Kansas children can escape hunger.

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

# YOUR GIFTS ARE RESTORING HOPE TO HUNGRY CHILDREN

**T**oday is Misty's second visit to United Methodist Open Door, a Kansas Food Bank hunger-relief agency in Wichita. She started coming here when her family became homeless.

Misty says her family's troubles began when her husband, Quentin, lost his job. With only his unemployment checks to cover their mortgage payments, utilities and food, it wasn't long before they lost their house. Today, they live with Misty's mother while both Quentin and Misty search for work.

**"I'm so thankful  
for everything  
that you've done."**

Even with the added help from family, what little income Quentin receives right now isn't enough to feed their four daughters — Divinity, 6, Eternity, 7, Trinity 9 and Unity, 10. Their school meals and the *Food 4 Kids* program provide some relief, but they know they'll have to make due without these resources very soon when summer arrives.

In order to feed her children — especially during the summer — Misty reached out to her local food pantry, which provides her family with lots of lean meats, eggs and shelf-stable groceries.

"It's comforting to know that we can come here for help," she says. Without your support, Misty's



children wouldn't have enough to eat this summer. But because you choose to give to the [Kansas Food Bank](#), children across our state are getting the nourishment they need to ensure they'll succeed when school starts back up in the fall.

Although Misty and Quentin hope to be employed soon, they're glad to know their children won't go

hungry while they continue their job search. As they work to improve their situation, Misty is grateful for your generosity.

"I'm so thankful for everything that you've done," she says, with all sincerity.



# YOU'RE HELPING KANSAS CHILDREN THRIVE



Maria and two of her children at a Mobile Pantry.

**M**aria is a single mom with three school-age children. When summer comes around, she knows she'll need to keep plenty of fresh fruit and veggies on hand to help them stay healthy and cool. But this won't be easy on her limited income...

---

**“The help we receive is a true blessing.”**

---

Maria used to work as a housekeeper, but with her youngest children still not old enough for school, she stays home to care for them. For now, she does odd jobs to make ends meet. But despite her best efforts, she's still not able to buy enough food for her family.

To help supplement her monthly grocery budget, her kids are enrolled in their school's free meal program — which is normally a huge relief for Maria. But when the semester ends next week, she'll have to provide these additional meals on her own. That's 30 extra breakfasts and lunches every week!

Thankfully, Maria just found out about the [Kansas Food Bank's](#) mobile pantry. Between this, and the Garden City food pantry, a Food Bank hunger-relief agency, she now looks forward to cooking filling meals that will help her children thrive this summer.

Maria is one of several parents in our rural communities who directly benefits from your generosity. When you give, children — and their parents — no longer have to worry

about missed meals during the long summer days.

When Maria's youngest children are old enough for school, she plans to go right back to work. But until then, she's so grateful for your support.

“The help we receive is a true blessing,” she says, thanking you for your gifts that are feeding her family this summer.



1919 E. Douglas  
Wichita, KS 67211  
316.265.FOOD(3663)  
[kansasfoodbank.org](http://kansasfoodbank.org)



[twitter.com/  
KansasFoodBank](https://twitter.com/KansasFoodBank)



[facebook.com/  
KansasFoodBank](https://facebook.com/KansasFoodBank)



MEMBER OF  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**