



Partner Agency Newsletter

March 2017

Souper Bowl of Caring Exceeds Its Original Goal

Each year, our community continues to amaze us during the Souper Bowl of Caring, and this year is no different. Thanks to our wonderful community, H-E-B, Randalls, and Central Market, the annual food drive set a new record with 2.9 million meals raised! We are already receiving multiple truckloads of canned corn, canned green beans, brown rice, peanut butter, and tuna.



Though the Souper Bowl of Caring tackles hunger in Central Texas, the annual food drive is a nationwide effort that benefits those struggling with hunger all over the United States. This year, the organization has collected more than \$7 million in cash and food items for charities across the country.

We can't thank our incredible community, H-E-B, Central Market, and Randalls enough for helping stock the Food Bank's shelves. Families across Central Texas couldn't be happier to receive a nutritious meal thanks to you! All the healthy meals will be distributed to families in need through the Food Bank's network of nearly 250 Partner Agencies in our 21 county service area.

With the record-breaking number of meals coming into our warehouse, we need volunteers now more than ever to help us sort all the donations. If you'd like to help us get these meals out to families in need, **sign up to volunteer now!**

Doing something unique or unusual at your agency that you want featured in the next Agency Spotlight? Email Colleen Ketchum at arintern@centraltexasfoodbank.org!

Welcoming New Staff

We welcomed two new Food Sourcing Coordinators to the Food Bank staff this year: Evan Driscoll and Nicole Akerson.

Evan's background is in local food systems, and most recently he worked as a Farmers' Market Coordinator. He has also worked as a Project Manager, Farm Manager, and farm owner. He serves on the Texas Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association board and has worked with a variety of other organizations to improve the food system in Central Texas.

Nicole is the Food Sourcing Coordinator for retail stores such as H-E-B, Wal-Mart, and Sam's Club. She moved from Tulsa, Oklahoma where she worked for the Eastern Oklahoma Food Bank as their Volunteer Coordinator. Nicole says she loves working with the Food Bank team and our partners because of our goal-oriented and teamwork-based mentality.



Welcome, Nicole and Evan!

TEFAP Forecast

Here is a list of items we are expecting to receive from USDA/TEFAP in March:

Canned Vegetarian Beans	Cornflakes Cereal	Canned Applesauce	Grape Juice	Beef Stew
Dry Pinto Beans	Rice	Canned Carrots	Orange Juice	Frozen Chicken Leg Quarters
Spaghetti	Shelf-Stable Milk	Canned Corn	Cranberry Juice Concentrate	Eggs
Frozen Blueberries				

Reminders and Resources

Psst...don't forget to submit your monthly reports for February no later than **March 15th**, to avoid being placed on hold!

The Central Texas Food Bank will be closed Friday March 17th for a Spring Holiday. There will be no pick-ups, deliveries, or shop-fors on this day. This will affect Monday and Tuesday pick-ups and deliveries as well.

If you normally pick up or receive deliveries on the 17th, you can either order extra food the week prior to the holiday or contact Michelle White at (512) 684-2150 to schedule an alternate pick up day. You can also email her at mwhite@centraltexasfoodbank.org.

If you pick up or receive delivery on:	Your order is due on:	By:
Monday, March 20	Wednesday, March 15	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, March 21	Thursday, March 16	9:00 a.m.

Agency Distribution Flyers: If you are looking to expand your reach in the community to inform potential clients about your pantry and food distribution, feel free to use the Agency Distribution Flyer found on our [Agency Resource Center](#) page!

Upcoming Events

Amplify Austin – You can continue to make donations until **6 p.m. March 3rd**! Take a look [here](#) to see our goals for this year’s 24 hours of giving.

SFC Farmers Market Fresh Food Drive – Come to this monthly drive on **Saturday, March 11th from 7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.** at Republic Square Park. This drive occurs the second Saturday of every month at the SFC Farmer’s Market Downtown and encourages customers to purchase fresh produce from market vendors to then donate to the Food Bank!

Austin Reggae Festival – If you love Austin’s funky music scene and helping end hunger, come join us **April 14-16** for the Reggae Festival at Auditorium Shores! This is the Food Bank’s largest annual fundraiser; in the last decade we’ve been able to raise over \$1 million to help feed hungry families in Central Texas. Tickets are already on sale on the festival [website](#). Attendees are also encouraged to bring 2 non-perishable food items or make a cash donation to help more families in need.

Contact the Team

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