

# Partner Agency Newsletter July 2019

# SPOTLIGHTS: Perishable Food Transportation Agreement

As of July 1, the Central Texas Food Bank began enforcing the requirement that all Partner Agencies without refrigerated vehicles or coolers with ice/cold packs must utilize insulated freezer blankets for transporting perishable food to comply with safe food handling policies. The Food Bank is initially providing one (1) free freezer blanket to

Agencies, to be given on your first July order. \*If we received your Perishable Food Transportation Policy Agreement after your first order was already processed, you will receive the blanket on your next order after your agreement is received.



If your agency loses your freezer blanket or you need more freezer blankets than the one given to you by CTFB, additional blankets will be available for purchase on the agency shopping list starting July 15. Additional blankets will be 8'x10' and will cost \$45 each. Please review the <u>FAQ</u> and <u>How-To Guide</u> documents or contact <u>agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org</u> with questions.

## **Closures:**

Please note the upcoming closure dates and times:

• Tuesday, July 30 from 3-5pm (internal event)

The internal closure dates will not affect deliveries but will affect agencies that pick up later than 2:30pm. If you normally pick up after 2:30pm on this day, either order extra food the week prior or contact Michelle White, Supply Chain Coordinator, at 512-684-2150 to schedule an alternate pickup day at the Food Bank. Please refer to the <u>2019 Holiday Guide</u> for closure dates for the Central Texas Food Bank. Ordering guidelines for closures will be posted and sent out 30 days prior to these dates so you can plan for your pantry needs. Check our website <u>here</u> for the most up to date closure information.

## **Reminders & Resources:**

#### Income Eligibility Guidelines Update

USDA annually publishes the TEFAP Income Eligibility Guidelines, which contain household qualifying income cut-offs for annual, monthly, and weekly income levels per number of household members. The eligibility guidelines cover the period from July 1 through June 30. Current income guidelines must be utilized by partner agencies as soon as the food bank makes them available.

- The 2019-20 Income Eligibility Guidelines are now available for your agency to use beginning July 1,
  2019. Please notify all staff/volunteers and begin preparing for the transition to this new form.
- The new guidelines have been updated on the USDA Intake Forms, which can be found in the <u>Agencies</u> <u>Resource Center</u> online.

#### "Better Together" Regional Meetings

We're bringing our partners together for regional meetings and we want you to be there! These meetings will be focused on sharing network successes and challenges, communicating updates and working on laying a foundation for how we will move our hunger relief work forward together as a network. There will also be opportunities to meet and network with new and existing staff from the Food Bank's Agency Services Team.

• The first regional meeting was in Travis County last month. Keep an eye out for invites to the Bastrop, Bell, and McLennan County meetings over the next few months!



#### Banana Boxes

The Food Bank is now *accepting* returned banana boxes! Please bring them back to the Food Bank or give them to Food Bank drivers when you pick up orders. We appreciate your assistance recycling the boxes over the past few months. Thank you!



#### Shop for - Did you know?

There are many free perishable food items available to Partner Agencies in the "Shop-For" section of the food bank! There is a Shop-For cooler and dry good section located in the Agency pick up area of the Food Bank warehouse. These free perishable items include an assortment of fresh produce, dairy, and bread. Partners are able to take advantage of Shop-For during regularly scheduled appointments, or may schedule additional appointments with Michelle White, supply chain coordinator, anytime Monday-Friday from 3-4:30pm. These free perishable food items offer lots of variety for your clients, as the inventory is always different depending on the donations we receive! For safety purposes, please only shop for items that are on the ground (single level). Only warehouse staff may move boxes from the cooler shelves to replenish the product that is below. We have recently restructured our replenishing process to ensure an adequate amount of product for all partners throughout the day. If you have any questions during your pick-up, please ask a warehouse assistant for help.

# **TEFAP Forecast:**

Dried Cranberries	Walnuts	Dry Split Pea	Orange Juice	Corn Flakes
		Beans		Cereal
Apple Juice	Meatless	Sliced Potatoes	Garbanzo Beans	Dry Dark Red
	Spaghetti Sauce			Kidney Beans
Smooth Peanut	Roasted	Dry Navy Beans	Whole Grain	Pork Pulled Ribs
Butter	Pistachios		Spaghetti	

## Contact the Team:

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