



The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma is a private, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that acts as a link through which the food industry and community may donate food and other goods. The products are then distributed to more than 700 charitable feeding programs and elementary schools in 53 central and western Oklahoma counties. In the last fiscal year, the Food Bank distributed 36.5 million pounds of food and product to help the charitable community effectively feed people in need. Since its inception in 1980, the Food Bank has distributed 358 million pounds of food to feed Oklahoma's hungry.

MISSION

The Food Bank's mission is to help the charitable community effectively feed people in need.

FACTS & FIGURES

- 500,000 Oklahomans are at-risk of going hungry every day, including one in five children.
- For every \$1 donated, the Food Bank can provide 7 meals to hungry Oklahomans.
- The Food Bank's administrative and fundraising costs are less than four percent.

FOOD FOR KIDS

This program is an emergency food assistance program designed especially for children. Children identified as chronically hungry by school personnel are able to receive a backpack filled with non-perishable, kid-friendly food for over the weekend or a school holiday. Currently, there are nearly 8,000 children in this program in 305 schools in 42 central and western Oklahoma counties.

SENIOR FEEDING PROGRAM

This pilot program provides weekend food assistance to homebound seniors and mobile food pantries at senior housing sites.

KIDS CAFE

The Food Bank assists 16 Kids Cafes that provide ongoing support and a "safe haven" for nearly 900 at-risk children. During the school year, sites provide nutritious snacks or an evening meal for up to 1,000 children daily. In the summer, the program provides breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack.

PRODUCE PEOPLE CARE

This program recovers and distributes produce to feeding programs across the state.

REGIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEM

The RDS program delivers food throughout the Food Bank's nearly 53 county service area to nearly 350 delivery sites, making approximately 1,000 deliveries per month in urban and rural Oklahoma.

SUMMER FEEDING PROGRAM

This supplemental summer feeding program is for children who depend on federally-funded free and reduced meals during the school year.

URBAN HARVEST

This program teaches and assists individuals and groups how to grow and harvest their own food. The Food Bank has also helped to establish more than 20 neighborhood community gardens at area schools, churches and vacant lots.

USDA COMMODITIES

This program distributes commodities throughout central and western Oklahoma to emergency feeding programs (homeless shelters, soup kitchens, and food pantries).

DHS PROGRAM

The Food Bank partners with the Okla. Dept. of Human Services (DHS) to provide nonperishable food to county DHS offices so case workers can issue the food to meet emergency needs when clients are unable to be served by local food pantries. A total of 52 DHS county offices currently participate in the program serving approximately 500 households.

CARE AND SHARE PROGRAM

A total of 8 rural counties are served through this program and close to 600 pre-made pantry boxes are distributed to families in communities where access to food pantries does not exist.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the Food Bank. In Fiscal Year 2010, thousands of volunteers donated more than 64,000 hours of service saving the Food Bank more over \$1 million in labor costs.

SPECIAL EVENTS

These fun and rewarding activities raise public awareness of our mission, and the need we fulfill within the community:

- The Chefs' Feast (March)
- Feeding Hope and Letter Carriers' Food Drive (May)
- National Hunger Action Month (H.A.M.) (September)
- Fashion for Food Fashion Show (September)
- Students Against Hunger Food Drive (Oct/Nov)

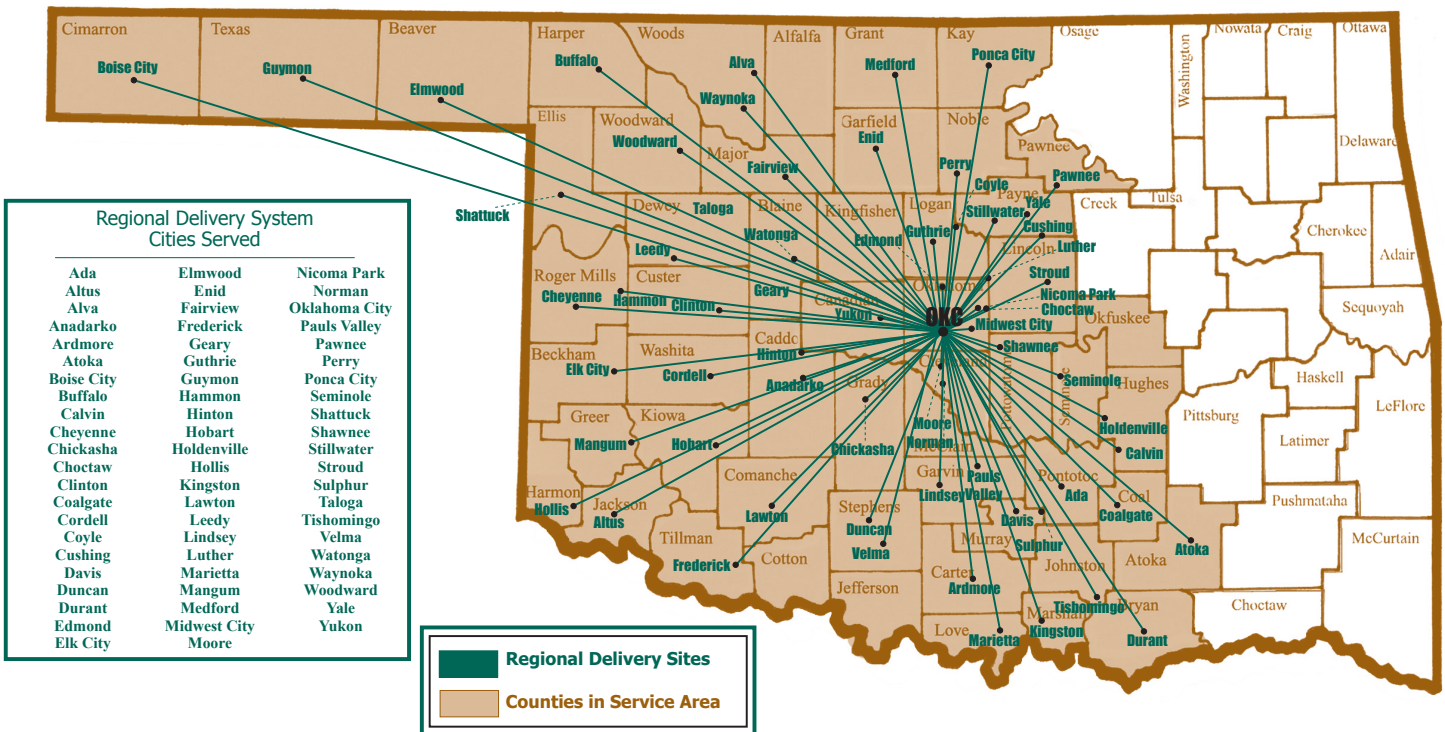
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Direct: 405-972-1111 • Fax: 405-688-6447 • www.regionalfoodbank.org

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"Fighting Hunger... Feeding Hope"[™]

SERVICE AREA MAP

REGIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEM



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FOOD for KIDS

Food for Kids began in 2003 in response to requests from school officials who saw children digging in trash cans looking for extra food, rushing food lines and passing out on Monday morning due to lack of food over the weekend.

Food for Kids is an emergency feeding program for chronically hungry elementary school children. Children, who might have very little or nothing to eat between school lunch on Friday and school breakfast on Monday, are given a backpack filled with nutritious, kid-friendly food every weekend and holiday throughout the school year.

Before receiving help from *Food for Kids*, many children had difficulty staying awake in class on Monday morning after a long weekend without enough food.



Hungry children cannot learn.

While hunger has negative effects for all segments of the population, children are the most vulnerable. Research indicates that even mild under-nutrition experienced by young children during critical periods can lead to deficits in learning, increased rates of academic failure and cognitive impairment. A report by the Sodexo Foundation estimates that \$1.4 billion is lost annually in Oklahoma because of hunger. By alleviating their hunger, children can develop in a healthy manner, focus on school work, miss fewer days of school and improve behaviorally.

The long-term objectives of the *Food for Kids* program are to give participating children the power to learn independently, grow and provide hope for their future, thereby giving them the opportunity to become well-adjusted, responsible, involved and productive Oklahoma citizens.



***Food for Kids* provided food to nearly 8,000 chronically hungry elementary school children in 305 low income schools in 42 Oklahoma counties during the 2009-2010 academic year.**

\$200 provides a backpack of food for one child every weekend and holiday for an entire school year.

“Fighting Hunger...Feeding Hope”[™]

“When hunger ends, learning begins.”

--Principal Boyd Braden, McCord Elementary

We hear stories everyday from teachers and counselors who witness first-hand the positive impact on children who participate in the Food for Kids program. These are just a few examples:



“I had a student in my class who I thought would benefit from the program, but I just wasn’t sure. I did not include him the first week, but after a few of his comments about food that week, I realized he would probably benefit. He is only 6 yrs old, so I explained the backpack and food to him in a way he would understand. In the fifteen minutes from when he was given the bag and when the end of the day bell rang, he thanked me three times with a huge smile on his face, ‘Thank you for the food.’”

“We have a student who became homeless when he was in second grade. His mother delivered papers and tried to provide for him. She struggled for many years. The child is now in fifth grade, making great grades, and his mother has found the stability she needs to provide for him. The Food for Kids program truly made a difference for this child!”

“One single mother shared with me that the peanut butter and crackers sometimes is the only thing there is to eat until payday. She has cried on my shoulder and thanked me personally for the program and told me how much it has helped her as she struggles to make ends meet for herself and her two little girls. I tell her how the Food for Kids program is funded and how many different people are involved in keeping this program a success for others just like her. Lives are impacted by your donations in ways you may never know.”

“I have a family whose dad just lost his job. They have three kids at home. The mom is disabled and not able to work. We put them on this program and the first time they received the food the mom called the school and cried she was so appreciative.”



Without *food*, there is no *hope*.
Without *hope*, there is no chance for *success*.
It all begins with food.

“Fighting Hunger...Feeding Hope”™

FLOW OF FOOD

Local Food Sources

Growers, packers, manufacturers,
distributors, wholesalers,
restaurants, retailers,
food drives, USDA

National Food Sources

Feeding America's growers,
packers, manufacturers,
distributors



**More than 700
Charitable Feeding Programs
and Elementary Schools**

**More than 77,000 different people receive
assistance from feeding programs in any given week**

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COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FOOD BANK

Q: What is the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma?

A: The Food Bank is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization distributing primarily donated food to more than 450 charitable feeding programs in 53 central and western Oklahoma counties.

Q: What kinds of feeding programs do you serve?

A: The Food Bank serves a variety of programs including emergency food closets, homeless shelters, children's programs, soup kitchens, senior citizen centers and mobile meals programs, drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers, women's shelters and group homes.

Q: Does the Food Bank sell food?

A: The Food Bank does not sell donated food. Donated food is distributed to agencies meeting our criteria for participation. These agencies contribute up to 12¢ a pound or less as a handling fee for Food Bank services. They pay nothing for the donated food. The agencies average under 4¢ per pound. The Food Bank purchase program does allow participating agencies the opportunity to buy, at our cost plus handling fee, key items that may not be available through donations. These items consist of a large variety of items including protein items and personal care products for example.

Q: What are the criteria for selection of participating agencies?

A: Feeding programs must be operated by a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or by a church. At least 51 percent of those fed must be classified as low-income (most programs serve 100 percent needy). **Food must be distributed to the needy at no cost.** Also, food programs sign an agreement not to barter, sell, or misuse any product they receive from the Food Bank.

Q: Does the Food Bank work directly with needy people?

A: Not under normal circumstances, no. In 2010, the Food Bank did receive a one-time grant that allowed for direct distribution of emergency family boxes of food and household products to low-income families with children. Aside from this exception, the Regional Food Bank serves as a liaison between the food industry and feeding programs. The Food Bank distributes the product to partner agencies, who then distribute to the hungry.

Q: How is the Food Bank funded?

A: Approximately 68 percent of the Food Bank's total funding consists of private donations from corporations, foundations, churches, and individuals. The remaining 32 percent of the Food Bank's income is in the earned income category and consists of handling fees, government contracts and program fees. The Food Bank's partner agencies assess themselves a handling fee of 12¢ or less per pound of food – with the current average at less than \$.04 per pound - to help support the Food Bank's general operations.

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Q: Where does the food come from?

A: Food is donated by a variety of sources. It comes from food manufacturers and distributors, grocery stores and community food drives. National product donations are also obtained through Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic charitable hunger-relief organization with more than 200 affiliate food banks.

Q: Do you distribute only food?

A: No. We also distribute cleaning supplies, toiletry items, paper products and other non-food products.

Q: What are some reasons why food/product is donated?

A: Food is donated for many reasons, including mislabeling, incorrect weight, incorrect ingredients/seasoning, damaged or seasonal packaging, over production, nearing "pull date", and product not selling.

Q: Does the Food Bank have enough food to meet the need?

A: No. It is estimated that the Food Bank meets about 50-65 percent of the need of charitable feeding programs. Items in our inventory move very quickly- especially those in high demand such as protein items, soups, and canned fruits and vegetables.

Q: How much food can the Food Bank accommodate?

A: With our 150,000 square foot warehouse, the Food Bank can handle almost any size donation, whether it is frozen, refrigerated, or dry. We estimate that we could distribute between 40 to 50 million pounds per year if the right kind food were available.

Q: Does the Food Bank have the capabilities to pick up food donations?

A: The Food Bank owns several different vehicles including dry boxes and refrigerated trailers, allowing us to pick up almost any size donation. Our trucks run daily routes in the metro area and at least monthly routes throughout our rural service area.

Q: Do food/product donations fluctuate during the year?

A: Product donations do go up and down during the year but there are not necessarily any trends. While donations fluctuate, the demand for food for needy Oklahomans remains constant throughout the year. Food is needed both in the winter and the summer. It is normal for donations to go up around the holiday season because it is traditionally a time of giving.

Q: Why does the Food Bank do Food Drives?

A: Food drives are a great way for individuals, business, community organizations and schools to become involved and support the Food Bank in assisting neighbors in the community. Food drives help the Food Bank obtain much needed shelf stable products. In 2010 the Food Bank received more than 1.2 million pounds of food and \$755,000 through the two major food drives held: Feeding Hope and Students Against Hunger.

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The logo for Feeding America, featuring a stylized wheat stalk above the words "FEEDING AMERICA" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the text "A Member of" is written in a smaller font.

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