

# Agency Scoop

ARKANSAS

FOOD  BANK

MEMBER OF  
FEEDING  
AMERICA

December 2017

*Agency Scoop, Arkansas Foodbank Member Newsletter, is your inside scoop for exclusive dates, information and stories from Arkansas Foodbank members. Distributed monthly, this is our primary contact to distribute information that applies specifically to our members.*

## ADVANCING EQUITY AWARD GRANT OPPORTUNITY

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS  
**Clinton School  
of Public Service** | **CENTER ON  
COMMUNITY  
PHILANTHROPY**



The Clinton School Center on Community Philanthropy announces Advancing Equity Award as a commitment to promoting racial equity across the Delta region. This opportunity is offered to nonprofits, individuals or faith-based groups who demonstrate innovative ways to promote equity and inclusion in their communities. This award seeks to encourage those who, through committing time and resources to expand diverse leadership within their communities, recognize the struggles specific to marginalized populations – particularly children and youth.

***The Advancing Equity Award will range from \$2,500 - \$5,000.***

Applicants who utilize resources in their community to foster racial healing and promote racial equity should apply. The award aims to serve those who are using innovative solutions to address inequalities in their communities and advance progress towards inclusion. The solutions should encourage the development of a pro-equity culture while also making incremental, measurable and visible progress towards racial equity.

### **Submit a one-page letter of interest highlighting:**

- Organization's history or individual accomplishments
- Efforts toward promoting racial equity
- Plan on how you will utilize the Advancing Equity Award.

Applicants must submit the one page letter of interest via **email to [kjbroughton@clintonschool.uasys.edu](mailto:kjbroughton@clintonschool.uasys.edu)** by December 20th, 2017. All applicants will receive an email acknowledging receipt of their proposal (from the Clinton School Center on Community Philanthropy, **not** Arkansas Foodbank).

**Please feel free to contact us at 501-565-8121 if you have questions.**

Jayne Ann Kita  
Chief Program Officer  
[jakita@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:jakita@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Connie Bledsoe  
Agency Relations Director  
[cbledsoe@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:cbledsoe@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Yolanda Williams  
Food For Kids Director  
[ywilliams@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:ywilliams@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Shamim Okolloh  
Community Relations Coordinator  
[sokolloh@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:sokolloh@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Erica McFadden  
SNAP Coordinator  
[emcfadden@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:emcfadden@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Kati South  
TEFAP Coordinator  
[ksouth@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:ksouth@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Robyn Manees  
Agency Relations Coordinator  
[rmanees@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:rmanees@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Keitha McGhee  
Food for Kids Coordinator  
[kmcghee@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:kmcghee@arkansasfoodbank.org)

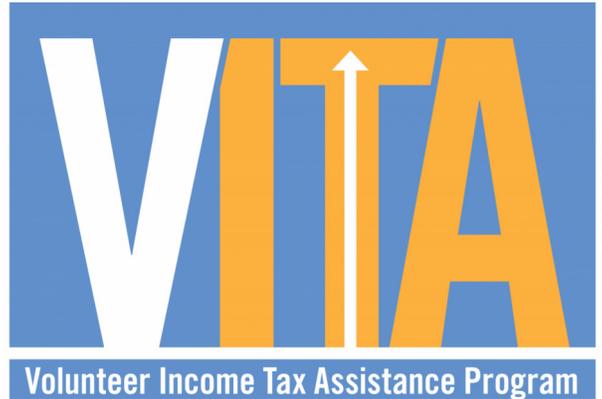
Taryn Hudson  
Program Services Assistant  
[thudson@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:thudson@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Jennifer Verkamp  
Child Hunger Corp Member  
[jverkamp@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:jverkamp@arkansasfoodbank.org)

Jean Adams  
Warren Branch Manager  
[jadams@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:jadams@arkansasfoodbank.org)

## VITA

The **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)** program offers free tax help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.



IRS-certified volunteer provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals. Additionally, **Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE)** program offers free tax help for all taxpayers, particularly those who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pension and retirement-related issues unique to seniors.

This is a great resource for many of our clients so please share widely. On average people spend on average \$200+ on tax preparation services and even more with predatory services that advance refunds. To find out a VITA location in your area visit <http://www.irs.gov> and look for the VITA/TCE Locator Tool.

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The Arkansas Foodbank will be closed on the following days in observance of upcoming holidays:

**December 25 & 26 for Christmas**  
**January 1 for New Year's Day**

Additionally, the Foodbank warehouse will be closed for inventory:  
**December 27 thorough the 29**

**Appointments and deliveries will resume on January 3**

Orders must be placed by the end of the day January 1st for January 3rd appointments. If you have any questions, please call the Foodbank at 501-565-8121. - Happy Holidays!

## SNAP VOLUNTEER TRAINING & INFORMATION SESSION

**RSVP Monday, January 23rd**

Has your agency noticed that seniors, families, and students need even more help providing food for their household and are unsure of other available resources for food assistance? SNAP (formally known as Food Stamps) can help. Volunteering with SNAP is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to use their skills and passion for helping others find additional sources for food assistance.

SNAP Volunteering is a good fit for people who have expressed an interest in volunteering with your pantry but may not be able to do the physical needs of filling or lifting heavy food boxes etc. SNAP Application Assistance just requires a chair, table, and pen. The Arkansas Foodbank SNAP team provides all the training, materials, and assistance to SNAP Volunteers.

**Join us for a SNAP Community Volunteer Training & Information Session on Friday, January 26th from 9:30 am– Noon at the Arkansas Foodbank. Refreshments will be served.**

RSVP for this training by Monday, January 23rd to **Erica Mcfadden, SNAP Coordinator 501-569-4311 or [emcfadden@arkansasfoodbank.org](mailto:emcfadden@arkansasfoodbank.org).**

## AGENCY EXPRESS REPORTING - NEW FOR 2018

### *Important Monthly Report Information*



Beginning with your monthly report for January 2018, all monthly reports will be submitted through Agency Express. This is the system you currently use to order. You will use the same log in information used to submit a food order. The report will ask for the same information as your current monthly report. Please be sure to check your e-mail for notices and instructions. This first report for 2018 will be the report for your work in January and will be due by February 15.



## CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP



Warm up with this classic. Serves 4

### Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup carrots, sliced
- ½ cup celery, sliced
- ½ small onion, diced
- 1 ½ cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 ½ cups water
- ¼ teaspoon poultry seasoning
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup chicken
- 2 ounces egg noodles, uncooked

### How to prepare

1. In a large soup pot, sauté carrots, celery, and onion in oil until tender (about 5 minutes).
2. Pour in chicken broth and water.
3. Season with poultry seasoning, pepper, and salt.
4. Add chicken and egg noodles.
5. Bring to a boil and cook 20 minutes, or until chicken breaks apart easily with a fork.
6. Remove chicken, shred, and return to pot.
7. Reduce heat and simmer 5 minutes, or until egg noodles are tender.



## Friendly Reminder

CALL BEFORE ORDERING

Please remember to call and schedule an appointment **BEFORE** placing an order in Agency Express. Failure to do so will result in the order being rejected. To schedule your appointment call us at **501-565-8121**.

[arkansasfoodbank.org](http://arkansasfoodbank.org)

