

Agency Scoop

ARKANSAS

FOOD  BANK

MEMBER OF
FEEDING
AMERICA

February 2019

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.

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

At the Arkansas Foodbank, we understand that healthy bodies and minds require nutritious meals at every age. However, 1 in 5 Arkansans face inconsistent access to adequate amounts of nutritious food needed to live healthy, active lives.

The county-level analysis that is part of Map the Meal Gap indicates that counties with the highest rates of food insecurity also have a higher prevalence of diabetes, obesity and persons with a form of disability.

As part of the Arkansas Foodbank's commitment to Partnership for Healthier America to increase the demand for healthier foods, we offer our member agencies and clients a variety of nutrition education resources.

The Arkansas Foodbank is proud to announce our partnership with Ambetter Health & Wellness to tackle issues around healthy food access and education by offering Nutrition programming throughout the year.

Each March, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics focuses nationwide attention on healthful eating through National Nutrition Month. This year to kick off our efforts, we are participating in National Nutrition Month by hosting a calendar of events/tips/challenges throughout the month of March.

Check out our website for more information:

arkansasfoodbank.org/agency-resources/nutrition-education

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

Eric Shelby
Chief Operations Officer
eshelby@arkansasfoodbank.org

Connie Bledsoe
Agency Relations Director
cbledsoe@arkansasfoodbank.org

Shamim Okolloh
Community Relations Coordinator
sokolloh@arkansasfoodbank.org

Taryn Hudson
Agency Relations Coordinator
thudson@arkansasfoodbank.org

Rebecca Agyei
agency relations
ragyei@arkansasfoodbank.org

Jean Adams
Warren Branch Manager
jadams@arkansasfoodbank.org



FROM  arkansas
health & wellness.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Please review this and share it with your staff and volunteers:

- Monthly reports are **due every month** even if you do not shop or distribute food. Regular reports are due on the 15th and TEFAP reports are due on the 5th.
- To remain in compliance with the Foodbank guidelines, all members are required to **shop a minimum of 6 times per year**. Retail participating members are required to abide by this policy too.
- Please display the days and hours your pantry is open.
- Your pantry must be open at least once per month.
- When transporting products from the Foodbank all vehicles must be tarped or enclosed.

AGENCY HIGHLIGHT - Southeast Arkansas College

The pantry at Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK) in Pine Bluff hosted "Operation Elf" which provided families without their pantry households with a gift for Christmas. They were able to assist 56 children with gifts and each household received a blanket.



Save The Date - Foodbank University

We are excited to see you all at the 2019 Foodbank University sessions. While it is a great opportunity for you to get information and meet some of the Foodbank staff and our community partners, most of the value comes from agencies interacting with each other. We also encourage you to bring at least one volunteer and/ or supporter of your pantry.

FOODBANK UNIVERSITY - Upcoming sessions

Below are the sessions coming up next month. Refreshments will be served at all Foodbank University workshops. See you there!

To RSVP for our Arkansas Foodbank University session(s) please contact Shamim at sokoloh@arkansasfoodbank.org or 501-569-4342.

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION
March 14th	9am - 11am	Advocacy	Arkansas Foodbank 4301 W. 65th Street Little Rock, AR 7220
March 19th	9am - 10 am	Retail	First UMC Conway 1610 Prince Street Conway, AR 72034
April 10th	10am - 12pm	Financial Literacy	Simmons Bank 100 W. Grove Street El Dorado, AR 71730
April 17th	10am - 12 pm	Nutrition	UA Ouachita Extension 2760 Mt. Holly Road Camden, AR 71701

2019 WARREN DELIVERY SCHEDULE

March 5, 12, 19, 26 | April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | May 7, 14, 21, 28
 June 4, 11, 18, 25 | July 9, 16, 23, 30 | August 6, 13, 20, 27
 September 3, 10, 17, 24 | October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 November 5, 12, 19 | December 3, 10, 17

SNAP STORIES



We are following up with all our agencies to find out if they have seen an increase in new people served. We anticipate an increase due to SNAP (food stamps) beneficiaries receiving their February SNAP funds in January.

If you have seen an increase, please let us know the number and if there are any stories (SNAP related) you want to share with us. We are trying to measure how much of an increase was experienced so we can seek funds to provide additional food to you all.

Contact **Rebecca** at ragyei@arkansasfoodbank.org on this. Thanks for your help and all you do to assist people in need.

Share your stories with us!

Keep up the great work! And please remember to send us your pantry/agency stories.

You can email Shamim at:

sokoloh@arkansasfoodbank.org

arkansasfoodbank.org

