

Agency Scoop

ARKANSAS

FOOD BANK



MEMBER OF
FEEDING
AMERICA

May 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.

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT - CONWAY MINISTRY CENTER



Thanks to our generous donors, we are able to award mini-grants to most of our agencies to support their operations and building capacity this past fall. We were happy to receive this update from one of our members and wanted to share it with you.

The Conway Ministry Center used the funds they received towards the purchase of a box truck. This box truck will be used for picking up food and donated furniture as well as helping move families that are in their rapid rehousing program.

Well done Conway Ministry Center! We believe this is a perfect investment not only in hunger relief efforts in Conway, but also in the betterment of your community. We are proud to partner with you.

In observance of Memorial Day Weekend **we will be closed on Monday, May 27th** 2019. No orders will be available for pick-up or delivery on the 27th. We will re-open on Tuesday, May 28th.

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 Data Coordinator
ragyei@arkansasfoodbank.org

Jean Adams
Warren Branch Manager
jadams@arkansasfoodbank.org

Camisha Johnson
Agency Relations Coordinator
Warren Branch
cjohnson@arkansasfoodbank.org

Keep up the great work – and
remember to send us your
pantry/ agency stories.

You can email Shamim at:
sokolloh@arkansasfoodbank.org

FAITH RELATIONS - FOLLOW & SHARE

In efforts to celebrate partnerships with our faith-based agencies, the Faith Committee of the Arkansas Foodbank is thrilled to announce the following new initiatives:

1. A monthly blog post will highlight a faith agencies efforts in alleviating hunger in their community. Great for sharing ideas and resources between agencies.

a. Be on the lookout for these posts on our social media pages and website and be sure to like the Arkansas Foodbank on Facebook and Instagram from BOTH your personal AND your ministry/congregation's pages.

2. Check out the new Faith Relations Resource page on our website to educate your ministry/congregation of the Foodbank's mission and efforts.

a. Directions on how to start a food and fund drive.

b. Faith Community Opportunities flyer – perfect handout for your congregation.

c. Information PowerPoint – share this with classes, during worship, and more.

3. COMING SOON! A children's curriculum on hunger in our state – perfect for a program during Hunger Action Month in September or Vacation Bible School or your congregation's equivalent. This will be available on the website in May 2019!



TYSON FOODS & CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP

We are thankful to Tyson Food for funding a new initiative that gives both their employees and families in Jefferson County access to nutritious food through a monthly mobile distribution that is hosted by Centennial Fellowship Church.



2019 WARREN DELIVERY SCHEDULE

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

WALMART FIGHT HUNGER. SPARK CHANGE

For the past 5 years, Walmart has partnered with Feeding America and its member food banks for their “Fight Hunger. Spark Change” campaign. In April, they launched the campaign for its sixth year and it will run until May 20th! The great thing about “Fight Hunger. Spark Change” is that YOU can help make a difference **LOCALLY** in your community just by shopping at your local Walmart store or Sam’s Club. The Arkansas Foodbank directly receives funds donated at the register in the Walmart and Sam’s Club stores in our 33-county service area, as well as funds from specific products purchased at the stores.



There are 3 easy ways you can get involved:

- For every participating product purchased at U.S. Walmart stores, Sam’s Club, on walmart.com or samsclub.com during the campaign, the supplier will donate the monetary equivalent of one meal (\$0.10) on behalf of a Feeding America member food bank (Arkansas Foodbank), up to applicable limits.
- Donate money to your local Feeding America member food bank (Arkansas Foodbank) at participating Walmart stores or Sam’s Clubs in the U.S.
- Donate at feedingamerica.org/Walmart

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
May 15th	9 am – 12 pm	USDA Civil Rights & Volunteer Recruiting	Arkansas Foodbank 4301 W. 65th Street Little Rock, AR 7220
May 21st	9 am – 10 am	Nutrition Education	Jefferson County Extension 500 S Idaho Street Pine Bluff, AR 71601
May 23rd	10 am – 12 pm	Financial Literacy with Simmons Bank	Simmons Bank 800 North Arkansas Ave Russellville, AR 72801
June 12th	10 am – 12 pm	Nutrition Education	Faulkner County Extension 844 Faulkner Street Conway, AR 72034

SUMMER CEREAL DRIVE 2019 – New This Year

On Thursday, May 30th the Arkansas Foodbank in partnership with THV11 is kicking off the 19th year of the Summer Cereal Drive. This event ensures that children all across central and south Arkansas have access to the most important meal of the day—breakfast! We are on our way to meet our goal of 500 thousand boxes of cereal. **Will you help us meet that goal to feed food insecure children in our state?**



How does the Summer Cereal Drive work?

There are two components of the Summer Cereal Drive: (1) teams and (2) community sites.

Community sites are a drop-off point for members of the community to make cereal or monetary donations. All cereal donations will stay in that particular community. On the other hand, Summer Cereal Drive teams work together to collect cereal and monetary donations in a friendly competition! The cereal that is collected from the teams will be distributed across the Arkansas Foodbank's 33 county service area.

How can you help?

Help us spread the word! If we are going to be in a town near you, please let your friends, family, or coworkers know that we will be accepting cereal and monetary donations. Encourage community leaders to take charge on this initiative. Stop by and visit us at our community sites. We always enjoy interacting with our agencies.

How does this help you?

The more money that is raised, the more cereal that can be purchased by the Arkansas Foodbank. The money received is restricted to purchasing cereal. Similarly, the more cereal donations that are received, the more the Arkansas Foodbank will be able to distribute. Put simply, this is FREE cereal that can be accessed by YOU. Luckily it hasn't been in short supply either. In fact, the cereal that was donated last year still hasn't run out! So please help us help you feed your communities. We would love to get you involved to ensure that you have access to meet all your needs and MORE!

Questions regarding the Summer Cereal Drive please contact **Nick Bradford** at (501) 569-4315 or nbradford@arkansasfoodbank.org.

Community Site	Date
Saline County (Kroger)	Tuesday, June 4th
North Little Rock (Indian Hills Kroger)	Thursday, June 6th
Little Rock (Heights Kroger)	Tuesday, June 11th
Cabot (Harps)	Thursday, June 13th
Hot Springs (Walmart Central Ave.)	Tuesday, June 18th
Conway (Kroger Salem)	Thursday, June 20th
Pine Bluff	Tuesday, June 25th

