



Food for Thought

The Newsletter of Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc.

Summer 2019

Dear Friends,

We hope you're enjoying your summer! 2019 has been an exceptionally busy year, and with just one quarter left in our fiscal year, we are expecting to set a new record high number of pounds distributed, reaching 2.5 million pounds of food. As always, we see this as good news/bad news: YAY, so many in need being helped! And, OH NO, so many are in need. We continue to hear of families and individuals who are working, but not able to make ends meet. We hear of short term need - the car broke down and the money used to fix it took the grocery money, for example; and long term need with income that doesn't cover the budget, or long term illness that prevents employment and/or creates large medical bills. Whatever the situation, we are here. We are blessed to partner with agencies that assist ALL in need, providing much needed, essential nutrition. And we are so grateful for our resources that continue to bring us two important food categories: FRESH PRODUCE and MEAT!

We are also counting our blessings for other good news:

- Finding a resource to provide us with a new-to-us mower when ours died, and finding people to help us with the outside work to keep our property looking good;
- A grant opportunity to help us cover the cost of replacing our off-the-shelf freezer when the existing freezer decided to retire;
- Another benefactor to help us with the ever-increasing costs for our transportation work, which includes both picking up donations and delivering product orders to our agencies;
- ... and the list goes on! Thank you, Siouxland, for helping us fight hunger in our community! We know that together, *we can solve hunger.*

Linda Scheid, Executive Director

FOOD BANK



OF SIOUXLAND INC.

Leading Siouxland in the fight against hunger.



Food Bank of Siouxland, Inc.

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Three Main Events

One Great Cause

Each year, the Food Bank of Siouxland holds three special events - Empty Bowls, Leader of the Pack, and Will Golf for Food. At each event, registrants, sponsors, and donors contribute to the fight against hunger.

Empty Bowls

Empty Bowls is an annual hunger awareness event that takes place during the cold, winter month of February. The night is filled with a light soup dinner from local restaurants and chefs, bread, dessert, and a live and silent auction. Each individual receives a hand-crafted bowl by local students and artists at the event as a reminder of the never ending hunger in our community. Empty Bowls 2019 Presenting Sponsor was Seaboard Triumph Foods. The event raised over \$82,000 and had 600 guests. Save the date for 2020 - February 7, 2020.

Will Golf for Food

A charity golf tournament that gives golfing a different meaning. The event gives individuals not only the chance to participate in a professional golfing setting but also lets them contribute to the fight against hunger. Teams of four set out on carts to golf 18 holes, then enjoy a dinner and prize drawings afterwards. Event sponsors also contribute to the fight against hunger. Sponsors can start giving at \$300 which can acquire over 3,900 pounds of food for the hungry. This year, "Will Golf for Food" presented by Wells Enterprises will take place on Monday, August 5.

Leader of the Pack

Leader of the Pack: Hunger Games is a run, walk, bike event that happens annually in June. Events include a 15k run, 5k run, bike ride, kids fun run/bike, a walk and a cycle/run. New in 2019, the cycle/run event starts with a 16 mile bike ride and finishes with a 5k run. This year's 9th Annual Leader of the Pack was on June 22 with 82 total registrations. The 2019 event presented by Oybec Institute raised over \$16,500 and had over \$4,500 in-kind donations. The funds collected from entry fees, sponsors, and raffles help provide food for families and individuals in need.



Why Special Events?

These events help to bring more awareness to the never ending fight against hunger. Food Bank of Siouxland's mission is to lead in this fight against hunger. Through events, we can both bring attention to the problem and the solution, as well as help with supporting the work that needs to be done. Each of these events helps raise funds to supply food insecure individuals. Food insecurity could happen to anyone. One step at a time, working together, we can end hunger in Siouxland.

Volunteers & Interns!

Volunteers and Interns are essential to the success of the Food Bank of Siouxland.

We have had interns in 2018 and 2019 that have greatly helped us utilize marketing tools in the fight against hunger. Not only do these interns help us, but they also grow as individuals. The interns become aware of hunger in the community as well as witness the huge role that volunteers and donors play in feeding the community. We send our great thanks to the volunteers and interns for all their help!

Volunteer Spotlight

Cetta Ericson



Cetta Ericson is just one of many volunteers that help us out. She started volunteering at the Food Bank of Siouxland after she retired as a legal secretary in 2010. Cetta loves working with the other volunteers, the staff and the people who filter through each day. She says it is important to give back to the community which is why she decided she would find a place to constantly volunteer after retirement. We cannot thank her enough for choosing to volunteer here at the Food Bank!

"They are all super friendly and I love being able to help them."

Taylor Van Vliet interned with us during the 2018-2019 school year. She is from Lincoln, NE and is a junior at Morningside College majoring in Secondary English Education. Taylor created content, managed, and monitored our social media accounts including Mobile Pantry posts, donor thank you's, event campaigns and promotions, news, and other happenings at the Food Bank. She especially helped us assist people during the flooding this spring by reaching out through social media to those who could volunteer, donate, or to those who needed help finding resources.

Sponsored by: iCap and Morningside College



"One of my favorite parts of this internship was being able to interact with the Siouxland community through social media. I was able to see first hand the generosity of the individuals and businesses of Siouxland and how willing this community is to help their neighbors."

Rae Clinkenbeard, our current social media intern, is part of the Tyson Food's Summer Community Internship Program. Rae comes from Denison, IA and will be a senior the fall at Morningside College finishing her majors in Arts Administration and Photography. She has been managing our social media pages, updating our social media plans, developing templates for posts and video, building newsletters, and taking photos for our organization.

Sponsored by: Tyson Foods, Iowa Campus Compact and Morningside College

"I enjoy the idea that my creative abilities and marketing skills can be used to bring hope and awareness to those people in need of help."

Without volunteers helping us at the Food Bank, it would be impossible to get as much food out to the community. The Food Bank has 7 full-time employees and 3 part-time employees. We could never distribute over 2 million pounds of food each year with a staff our size, but thanks to our volunteers, we can continue to operate at a highly productive level!



Staff Member *Spotlight*



Jacob Wanderscheid

Jacob Wanderscheid, who had been the Food Bank's Network Relations and Transport Coordinator for several years, became our new Assistant Executive Director last summer. In August, Jacob will have been a part of the Food Bank of Siouxland for six years. With the new position, Jake works with truck runs, deliveries, agency relations and day-to-day activities in the office, just to name a few. With this new position, Jake does more off-site work by monitoring and aiding with the in and outs of food deliveries for example.

One of his favorite aspects of the job is doing the off-site work because he is able to get out and see the people we help, which motivates Jake. When in the office, you don't see the faces of the people being helped - but working hands-on reminds us of the value of our work to each and every food recipient.

We are thankful for Jake and all he does to help lead the fight against hunger!

2019 Board of Directors

Stacie Hays, *President*
Doug Collins, *Vice President*
Matt Campbell, *Treasurer*
Jason Sweitzer, *Secretary*
Mark Eganhouse, *Past President*

Lee Bobier
Rob Costello
Ryan Gehling
Mike Gormally
Tyler Hayden
Brooke Hensley
Zac Johannsen
Matt Raveling
Mandi Sievers
Allison Skouge
Dale Tigges

2019 Food Bank Staff

Linda Scheid
Executive Director

Jacob Wanderscheid
Assistant Executive Director

Jennifer Hart
Development Director

Jennie Allen
Operations Director

Tiffany Kissinger
**Program & Administrative
Coordinator**

Rico Linares
**Senior Truck Driver/Warehouse
Assistant**

Nick Todd
Driver/Warehouse Assistant

Avery Blackhawk
Part-time Warehouse Assistant

Tom Kuchera
Part-time Warehouse Assistant

We have been breaking records!

February, March and April marked the biggest three months, in terms of pounds of food distributed, in the entire history of the Food Bank of Siouxland. This is wonderful but also a little sad as it tells a story that many more people are in great need.

**SAVE
THE DATE**

16th Annual "Will Golf for Food" Charity Golf Outing

Come out to enjoy 18 holes of golf with cart followed by dinner, door prizes, pin prizes, mini contest, and more at Whispering Creek Golf Club on *Monday, August 5, 2019* presented by Wells Blue Bunny and PREMIER Bankcard.

Contact Jennifer at 712-255-9741 or Jennifer@siouxlandfoodbank.org to register and learn more!

Celebrate Our Friends Day

A way to thank those who consistently go above and beyond! Event includes the presentation of Agency and Volunteer awards, as well as our annual Legacy Award, at 4:00 pm on Thursday, September 12, at the Food Bank of Siouxland.

RSVP by calling 712-255-9741.