Dear Prospective Food Bank of Siouxland partner:

Thank you for your interest in becoming an agency partner of the Food Bank of Siouxland. We are excited to work with organizations that help feed the hungry. Enclosed is an application packet that will walk you through the steps necessary to becoming an agency partner.

Partnership is achieved by the following:

- □ Read through the application packet for a brief overview of the Food Bank of Siouxland
- □ Complete the pre-application checklist to determine whether to proceed with the application process
- □ Fill out the enclosed partnership application and agreement forms and return to the Food Bank of Siouxland
- □ Provide the Food Bank of Siouxland with a copy of your 501(c)3 IRS tax exemption letter or the IRS church qualifier form (enclosed)
- □ Pass a site visit conducted by the Food Bank of Siouxland
- □ Complete food safety training

Once the application is received and reviewed, I will contact you to discuss your application and to schedule a site inspection. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Linda Scheid
Executive Director
Food Bank of Siouxland Inc.
The Food Bank of Siouxland is a nonprofit organization committed to soliciting food and distributing these donations to community charities with feeding programs for the needy. We are a year round, centralized, stable food source for Siouxland nonprofit organizations that have feeding programs on site or food pantries. With a staff of only eight employees, we distribute over one million pounds of food each year to nearly 125 charities in an 11 county area. Nonprofits of all types utilize the Food Bank of Siouxland – food pantries, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, residential facilities, senior centers, day care facilities, and many more. By utilizing the Food Bank, agencies can reduce their food costs and dedicate their funds to the programs which support the needy, the ill, the elderly, and children in our community.

The Food Bank of Siouxland is a Partner Distribution Organization of Feeding America, and affiliated with the Food Bank for the Heartland in Omaha. We receive food in a variety of ways, including from the Food Bank for the Heartland and other food banks, USDA commodities through the Iowa and Nebraska Departments of Human Services, and we solicit and receive food donations from local food manufacturers and retail stores. We also partner with various companies, organizations, and schools throughout the year for food drives.

You are invited to schedule a time to visit and tour the Food Bank prior to becoming a member. I look forward to working with you in your mission of feeding the hungry in Siouxland.
Description of a food bank and the types of agencies it serves:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Bank</td>
<td>FOOD BANKS, as a general rule, provide a year-round source of food to nonprofit charities with feeding programs for the needy. The Food Bank of Siouxland has nearly 125 member agencies in 11 Siouxland counties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Pantry</td>
<td>A PANTRY provides bags or boxes of food to people to consume off premises. Pantries are encouraged to provide a 5-day supply of food for an individual or family, scaling the distribution to the size of the household.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Site Feeding Program</td>
<td>An ON-SITE FEEDING PROGRAM provides meals to people in need for consumption at the site where the food is prepared. On-site meal programs include shelters or residential facilities, soup kitchens, homeless shelters which provide meals to individuals who are not residents of the facility, senior nutrition sites, and residential treatment centers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental Feeding</td>
<td>A SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING SITE is an agency that serves snacks on-site versus a meal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Pantry Program</td>
<td>MOBILE PANTRY PROGRAMS were designed to send a truckload of food for those in underserved communities and hard to reach areas, to be consumed off premises. The Food Bank of Siouxland's Mobile Pantry Program: Food for You began in 2010.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BackPack Program</td>
<td>BACKPACK PROGRAMS are a type of take-home food program for children. The purpose of the program is to provide a weekly backpack of shelf-stable food to get students through the weekend when school meals are not available to provide nutrition. The sacks are handed out at week's end and contain products full of protein, fruits, calcium, vitamins and grains. The Food Bank of Siouxland's BackPack Program: Food for Kids currently serves five area schools.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benefits of Partnership

Being an agency partner of Food Bank of Siouxland offers many benefits.

- We are a partner to help you accomplish your mission of feeding the hungry
- We offer a variety of food
- You have a choice of pick-up or delivery of product
- You have access to our agency off the shelf shopping area
- You can order products online
- You are a member of a network working to reduce hunger in northwestern Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

Member Agency Handbook

Every program, upon approval of partnership, will receive an agency manual that outlines many of the policies and procedures for being an agency partner of Food Bank of Siouxland.
Criteria for Membership

1. You must be a 501(c)3 not-for-profit or a church

2. Agencies may not use food or non-food items (hand soap, toilet paper, cleaning supplies) provided by the Food Bank for agency upkeep or in support of the agency's food distribution program.

3. Agencies may not pull donated items from inventory for on-site consumption by agency volunteers or staff. Agencies may not “thank” volunteers with Food Bank product. Staff or volunteers must meet the same standards of need as all other persons coming to the agency for assistance. Those who qualify as in need must follow the same procedures in obtaining assistance.

4. Agencies may not use donated goods as refreshments for business meetings, trainings or funeral/church dinner when intent is not to feed the needy.

5. Persons within the agency may not consume or take home donated product. All efforts to become more familiar with it, advise clients as to its use, discover new ways it can be used, and/or test its fitness for consumption should be done on site in an area deemed fit for food preparation by a health department inspection.

6. Agencies may not sell, barter, or trade product received from the Food Bank. Product may not be used for fundraising either as prepared food (dinners or bake sales) or prizes.

   Examples include, but are not limited to the following...
   - **Selling**: using flour from the Food Bank to make cookies to sell at a bake sale, or charging a fee or expecting a donation at a dinner
   - **Bartering**: requiring an individual to do community service in exchange for goods
   - **Trading**: requiring an individual to switch their excess of green beans for meat from your pantry

7. Agencies set their own client eligibility guidelines; however, criteria must be posted at your pantry/feeding site. All agencies must provide food for an underprivileged or underserved population including the ill, needy, or children.

8. Home based services (such as foster care homes or family based day care) are excluded from Food Bank membership.

9. Agencies which provide a comprehensive care service, with food being a part of that service, may charge a fee for their services, but the fee cannot include the cost of food.
10. Agencies may not solicit donations from individuals seeking help. Agencies may accept contributions from clients, but the service cannot be denied because of inability to contribute. All contributions from clients must be truly voluntary and made anonymously.

11. Food Bank product must be available to all eligible, ill, needy, or infants without regard to race, sex, national origin, handicaps or religious preference. Food recipients may not be required to listen to preaching, profess a faith, attend church services or receive inequitable treatment on the basis of their faith.

12. Agencies must utilize a tracking system, such as a sign-in sheet, to obtain information about individuals served. This data will be used to complete and submit quarterly reports to the Food Bank of Siouxland in a timely manner. If your agency would like to receive food from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (or TEFAP), you must gather the information from the TEFAP Eligibility form for your state. While obtaining this information, agencies may not, however, ask individuals to provide social security numbers as proof of residency.

13. All agency partners are required to have one member of their agency complete Food Safety training.

Termination of Membership

If you violate the above guidelines, you may receive a warning or have your agency membership terminated. The following are additional causes for termination of membership:

- Lack of activity
- Delinquent account
- Stealing from the Food Bank
- Demise of food service program
- Agency ceased to exist
- Status of 501(c)3 changes
- Incurable infestation problem
- Lack of cooperation with the Food Bank staff (site visits, reports, etc.)
What is a 501(c)3?

- It is a federal IRS document, not a state tax exempt form
- Your agency is eligible to become a partner by one of the following:
  - Having a 501(c)3
  - Being part of an umbrella-owned and operated parent organization who has a 501(c)3 status
  - Completing the IRS Church Qualifier form

IRS Church Qualifier

Churches who do not have a 501(c)3 designation from the IRS can apply under the church entity. Nine examples of the following items should accompany the application. All applicants applying as a church should provide a letter from the church on its letterhead. It should be signed by its chief executive officer affirming that the organization is, in fact, a church and essentially meets the spirit of the 14 criteria employed by the IRS in defining a church (listed below).

A. A distinct legal existence
B. A recognized creed and form of worship
C. A definite and distinct ecclesiastical government
D. A formal code of doctrine and discipline
E. A distinct religious history
F. A membership not associated with any (other) church or denomination
G. A complete organization of ordained ministers ministering to their congregations
H. Ordained ministers elected after completing prescribed courses of study
I. A literature of its own (newsletter or Sunday morning program)
J. Established places of worship
K. Regular religious services
L. Religious instruction for the young
M. Schools for the preparation of its ministers
Site Inspections

Food Bank of Siouxland and Feeding America require that before an agency can be approved for partnership, it must pass a site inspection. After approval, the site will continue to be inspected every year.

What do we look for in a site inspection?

- Pantry hours are posted
- Pantry eligibility/requirements are posted
- Food and non-food household items are stored in separate areas
- A clean storage area
- Practice “First In, First Out” food distribution
- All food is stored 6 inches off the floor and 4 inches away from walls
- Have clean equipment
- Have working thermometers
  - 32 – 41 degrees for a refrigerator and zero (0) degrees and below for freezer
The following is a checklist to determine whether you should proceed with the application process. You should be able to check all of the boxes below.

- You are a 501(c)3 not-for-profit or complete the IRS Church Qualifier
- You are providing service to an undeserved population
- You have secured a location for your facility and it is not located in person’s home
- You have proper and adequate physical storage space
- You have determined your hours of operation and days of service. It is desirable if your agency would operate with regularly scheduled hours and be open at least twice a month for a minimum of two hours each time
- You have personnel who are accountable for record keeping and inventory control
- You utilize sign-in sheets or another tracking system to keep track of the individuals served
- You have the ability and willingness to access and submit information via the internet
- You are willing to adhere to food safety guidelines and to complete Food Safety Training
- You have regular pest control services performed at your facility
- Clients will receive food free of charge with absolutely no conditions imposed, implied, or exchanged
IRS Church Qualifier form

Churches who do not have a 501(c)3 designation from the IRS can apply under the church entity. Nine examples of the following items should accompany the application. All applicants applying as a church should provide a letter from the church on its letterhead. It should be signed by its chief executive officer affirming that the organization is, in fact, a church and essentially meets the spirit of the 14 criteria employed by the IRS in defining a church (listed below).

☐ A distinct legal existence

☐ A recognized creed and form of worship

☐ A definite and distinct ecclesiastical government

☐ A formal code of doctrine and discipline

☐ A distinct religious history

☐ A membership not associated with any (other) church or denomination

☐ A complete organization of ordained ministers ministering to their congregations

☐ Ordained ministers elected after completing prescribed courses of study

☐ A literature of its own (newsletter or Sunday morning program)

☐ Established places of worship

☐ Regular religious services

☐ Religious instruction for the young

☐ Schools for the preparation of its ministers

I certify that this organization meets the requirements indicated for identification as a church.

________________________________________  __________________________
Signature of Pastor  Date
AGENCY APPLICATION
## AGENCY APPLICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Name</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Address (if different)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Organization (if any)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRS 501(c)3/EIN #</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program staff (circle contact persons)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## PART I: GENERAL QUESTIONS/OBSERVATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. How do the services you provide, or your intended use of food bank food, align with the mission of the Food Bank of Siouxland, which is to distribute food to food pantries and feeding programs for the needy?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. What percentage of patrons you expect to serve do you anticipate will be below the poverty guidelines? Please note that all agencies will be required to gather and report this data each quarter.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Sources of food other than the Food Bank: Food on hand (by observation)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Anticipated schedule for pick up or delivery of Food Bank items:</td>
<td>weekly bi-monthly monthly occasional/seasonal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Do you currently have a key staff/volunteer certified in food safety?</td>
<td>Yes No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If yes, please submit documentation with this application.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If no, please know that you will need to complete this training within 30 days of your application’s approval.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SECTION A: FOOD PANTRY, MOBILE PANTRY, BACKPACK PROGRAM

1. Do you have regularly scheduled hours?
   - Sunday:
   - Monday:
   - Tuesday:
   - Wednesday:
   - Thursday:
   - Friday:
   - Saturday:

2. What are your funding sources for the program?

3. Do you request/require donations from the people you serve?
   - __Yes___ No
   - If yes, how is the amount determined?

4. Do you have any eligibility requirements?
   - __Yes___ No
   - If yes, please list:
   - Is this criteria posted?
     - __Yes___ No

5. Are people required to do community service or attend services (if a church) in exchange for food?
   - __No___ Yes Explain:

6. A. Do you require referrals?
   - __Yes___ No
   - If yes, from what agencies?

7. B. Do you require appointments?
   - __Yes___ No

8. Who can someone in need of assistance call for help?
   - Phone number (______)______________
   - When? ____________________________

9. Which items do (would) you distribute? (check all that apply):
   - dry goods (cans, boxes, bottles)
   - fresh fruits/vegetables
   - dairy products
   - frozen foods

10. How many individuals do you serve each month (average)?
    - Would you serve more if resources were available?
      - __Yes___ No
10. If already operating, what percent of your clients are “regulars” (receiving food more than four times per year)?

If a church, what percent of your clients are from your own congregation?

11. Is your service limited by any of the following?

- storage space (dry/frozen)
- availability of staff/volunteers to run pantry
- funding
- ability to get to food bank

12. Do you feel your program is meeting the demand in your area?

- Yes
- No

How do people find out about your program?

13. Do you deliver food?

- Yes
- No

SECTION B: ON-SITE FEEDING PROGRAM, SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING PROGRAM

1. Describe program:

Who is your intended population?

2. Meals served:

- breakfast
- snack
- lunch
- dinner

Days operating:

- Sunday:
- Monday:
- Tuesday:
- Wednesday:
- Thursday:
- Friday:
- Saturday:

3. What are your funding sources for this program?

Do you request/require a donation from the people you serve?

- Yes
- No

If yes, how is the amount determined?
4. Do you have a tuition/program fee?  ___ Yes ___ No

   If yes, amount?

   Do you exclude food costs from this fee?  ___ Yes ___ No

5. Do you have any eligibility requirements  ___ Yes ___ No

   If yes, please list:

   Is this criteria posted?  ___ Yes ___ No

6. How many are served at each meal (average)?

7. Are any of your meals catered?  ___ Yes ___ No

   By whom?

   Which meals?

8. Do you have a Health Certificate from the local Dept. of Public Health?  ___ Yes ___ No

    List license/inspection #

9. Are people required to do community service or attend services (if a church) in exchange for meal?  ___ No ___ Yes

   Explain:

---

**PART III: STORAGE FACILITIES/KITCHEN AREA**

1. Do you have:  
   - _____freezers (size:_______________cubic ft.)
   - _____refrigerator (size:_______________cubic ft.)
   - _____dry storage area (describe):
2. Is food stored in a locked area/cabinet?  ___ Yes ___ No

Is there limited access to the food storage area?  ___ Yes ___ No

3. Is food stored at least six inches off the floor?  ___ Yes ___ No

Any evidence of rodents/insects?  ___ Yes ___ No

4. Do you contract with a professional exterminator?  ___ Yes ___ No

What Firm & Frequency?

*Note: Food Bank of Siouxland agencies must have professional extermination services a minimum of once a year.

PART IV: RECORDS

The following records should be maintained by your agency, depending on the type of services provided. The Food Bank requires each agency to submit quarterly reports which can be found on the Agency section of our website. You will need to utilize sign-in sheets or another tracking system to keep track of the individuals served. Keeping the following information will help you complete the quarterly report form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOOD PANTRY:</th>
<th>ON-SITE FEEDING:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. ___Record of persons receiving food to include:  
  - dates  
  - name(s)  
  - number in household  
  - whether individual/family falls below poverty guidelines*  
  2. ___File of Food Bank of Siouxland paperwork to include:  
  - Agency Manual with copy of your Application, Liability Release, and Agency Agreement for future reference  
  - quarterly reports  
  - warehouse releases  
  - invoices and statements  
  - extermination records  
  - current food safety training certificate(s)  | 1. ___Record of persons served meals/snacks to include:  
  - dates  
  - meal/snack served  
  - number of persons served  
  - whether individual/family falls below poverty guidelines*  
  2. ___File of Food Bank of Siouxland paperwork to include  
  - Agency Manual with copy of your Application, Liability Release, and Agency Agreement for future reference  
  - quarterly reports  
  - warehouse releases  
  - invoices and statements  
  - extermination records  
  - current food safety training certificate(s) |
*Please use your best judgment regarding the validity of the client’s answers. You cannot ask for a person’s social security numbers in order to verify information for eligibility!!

**PART V: AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE**

Your agency’s authorized representative’s signatures below indicate authorization in the name of and on behalf of the applying agency, to execute and deliver on any and all written contracts to which your agency may be or become a party.

____________________________      x_____________________________    ______________
Authorized Agency Rep. PRINTED       Authorized Agency Rep. SIGNATURE    Date

____________________________      x_____________________________    ______________
Board/Chair Person PRINTED                          Board/Chair Person SIGNATURE    Date

**FOOD BANK OF SIOUXLAND STAFF USE ONLY:**

Date: __________

Food Bank of Siouxland Authorized Signature: ________________________________

Director of Food Bank noting acceptance of application

Other Notes: ________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
Agency Agreement/Liability Release Form

Date: 

Agency Partner #: 

Agency Partner Name: 

Contact Name: 

Mailing Address: 

Distribution Address: 

Agency Agreement

This document is an agreement between ________________________ referred to as “agency” and the Food Bank of Siouxland Inc.

The agency agreement governs an agency’s membership in The Food Bank network. An agency must be willing and able to adhere to the agency agreement in order to become a member and to maintain membership. The agency agreement is designed to protect the interest of those who donate to our network and to ensure the integrity of the emergency food distribution network.

All information contained in the Agency Manual is part of the Food Bank of Siouxland expectations for Agency Agreement of Membership.

The following items are the criteria for being an Agency of Food Bank of Siouxland. The Agency:

1. Must provide food for an underprivileged or underserved population.
2. Must be a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization or qualify under the IRS Church Qualifier.
3. Will not sell, transfer, barter, or offer for sale the items supplied by Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. in exchange for money, property, or services, or otherwise allow the items to reenter commercial channels.
4. Will not use product from Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. for personal use of agency staff or volunteers.
5. Will not store, prepare, or distribute product from Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. at a location not authorized by Food Bank of Siouxland Inc.
6. Must have responsible personnel who are accountable for record keeping and inventory control.
7. Must keep records of food from Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. at the site of distribution for a minimum one year and USDA Commodities for a minimum of three years.
8. Must have proper and adequate physical storage space and refrigeration to ensure the wholesomeness of the food until used/or redistributed.
9. Must agree to distribute to individuals directly and not to another organization.
10. Must pass a site inspection prior to approval and once a year after that.
11. Must have the ability and willingness to access and submit information via the internet.
12. Must provide transportation to pick up food at the food bank warehouse or agree to delivery fees of $10.00 for deliveries 250 lbs. or less, or $0.04 per pound for deliveries over 250 lbs.

13. Must be agreeable to supporting the operation of the Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. suggested shared maintenance contribution of up to $0.18 (eighteen cents) per pound for donated food received. A summary record showing pounds of food received and shared contributions received or due will be sent at the first of each month.

14. Must utilize sign-in sheets or another tracking system to keep track of number in family/individuals served and keep track of percentage below poverty level.

15. Must establish your own criteria for the individuals you serve; however, criteria must be consistent and be posted at your pantry/feeding site.

16. Must adhere to food safety guidelines.

17. Must have one agency staff member or volunteer complete Food Safety Training.

18. Must submit quarterly reports to Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. by the 30th of the month following each quarter. Please use our form which can be found on our website at http://www.siouxlandfoodbank.org on the top of the page.

19. Agrees that it will not engage in discrimination, in the provision of service against a person because of race, color, citizenship, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation including gender identity, unfavorable discharge from the military or status as a protected veteran.

20. All agencies agree to use Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP): Eligibility To Take Food Home sheet when distributing USDA food (Nebraska agencies only).

Agreement of Indemnity

1. Food Bank of Siouxland Inc., Feeding America, and the original donor have specifically disclaimed any warranties or representations, expressed or implied, as to the purity of fitness for consumption of any or all donated items.

2. Agency agrees to accept all items in “as is” condition

3. Agency hereby releases the original donor, Feeding America, and Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. from any liability resulting from the donated food/products and holds them harmless from any and all liabilities, claims, losses, causes of action, suites of law or iniquity, or any obligations in regard to the agency partner or the donated goods.

Non-compliance

If an agency does not comply with the Agency Agreement and the contents of the Agency Manual, the Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. may interrupt service to the agency temporarily or suspend the agency entirely, depending upon the severity of the violation. We recognize that these consequences may adversely impact your clients. While our goal is to ensure that clients have access to the food they need, we must maintain the integrity of our network in order to ensure its long-term viability. Any actions taken to suspend or remove an agency for membership will receive written notification. Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. reserves the right to suspend or terminate any participating program/agency due to complaints of questionable activity or procedures.

The following list provides examples of a range of violations:

1. Agency is delinquent in payment of the handling fees

2. Proper records are not maintained at the program site

3. Donated food or other products are improperly stored, refrigerated, or transported

4. Donated food is used in a manner that is not consistent with membership guidelines
5. Donated food or other products are exchanged for money, property, or services

6. Donated food or other products are removed from the program site for private use by program staff or volunteers

Grievance Policy
If for any reason you are unsatisfied or have a grievance with Food Bank of Siouxland Inc., please contact the following:

Jacob Wanderscheid
Agency Relations Coordinator
jacob@siouxlandfoodbank.org
712-255-9741

Linda Scheid
Executive Director
linda@siouxlandfoodbank.org
712-255-9741

This agreement may be modified as deemed needed by the Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. Your agency’s authorized representative’s signature below indicates acceptance of this agreement between your agency and the Food Bank of Siouxland Inc.

____________________________________________
Authorized Agency Representative, Print Name

X______________________________________
Authorized Agency Representative, Signature Date

X______________________________________
Food Bank of Siouxland Inc. Authorized Signature Date