



A Member of Feeding America

NORTH TEXAS FOOD BANK PROGRAMS

AGENCY UNIVERSITY (AU) is an education program of the North Texas Food Bank that empowers Member Agencies by providing education and training to enhance their food programs and help them leverage their resources. Additionally, the skills learned in AU help our Agencies increase their capacity so they can help more people in need. In our 2011 fiscal year, Agencies could choose from eight different courses taught by professionals in the fields of health and nutrition, community gardening, grant writing, finance, fund development, and PR/marketing. This year NTFB had 96 participants complete 1,566 hours of training, which were provided to our Agencies free of charge. Agency participants also qualify to receive continuing education college credits from El Centro Community College.

CHARITABLE PRODUCE CENTER Founded in 1994 with Louise Gartner's vision, the Charitable Produce Center was designed to transform the large amount of waste in the fresh produce market into a source of nourishment for hungry North Texans. The Food Bank extended this concept in 1999 with a grant from Kraft Foods, Inc., by developing the Rural Produce Initiative to distribute fresh produce to Member Agencies outside of Dallas County each week. In fiscal year 2011, the program distributed 4,509,812 pounds of produce throughout all 13 counties in the North Texas Food Bank's service area.

COMMODITIES SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM In 2000, the North Texas Food Bank became the first Commodities Supplemental Food Program (also known locally as People and Nutrition, or PAN) distributor in Texas. The program provides surplus USDA commodities for low income Dallas County residents who meet certain requirements, such as being 60 years old or older, children under six not receiving assistance from WIC (Women, Infants and Children Program) or pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum women not receiving assistance from WIC. Each month, 8,500 participants receive an estimated 32 pounds of USDA commodities at 98 PAN distribution sites in Dallas County. PAN is a partnership of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Texas Department of Agriculture and the North Texas Food Bank.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN The Community Kitchen began as a North Texas Food Bank pilot program in early 2000. The mission of the kitchen is to offer Member Agencies nutritious, fully prepared frozen meals to heat and serve to the hungry while providing culinary job skills training to disadvantaged individuals with an interest in a food service career. Construction of a new 3,000 square foot kitchen at the Food Bank was completed in February 2002. The kitchen

provides an average of 10,000 meals weekly in a variety of casserole formats which are then distributed to 39 program sites. Up to 30 students, primarily from the Texas Second Chance Program in partnership with Dawson State Prison, receive food service training each year while helping to prepare meals.

FOOD FOR FAMILIES is a cooperative effort between the North Texas Food Bank and more than 27 Member Agencies. Pre-qualified clients of participating Agencies are issued a voucher for specific food distribution. Clients meet Agency volunteers at a specific parking lot at a pre-determined time. A drive-through line is organized and Agency volunteers give food directly to clients from Food Bank trucks. In fiscal year 2011, more than 631,529 pounds of food were distributed to more than 9,904 families and 38,241 individuals.

FOOD 4 KIDS Elementary school children on the free and reduced-price school meal program often face hunger when these meals are not available on weekends. The Food 4 Kids program helps to solve this problem by providing backpacks full of nonperishable, kid-friendly food for these chronically hungry children to take home on Friday afternoons. The program has grown to 330 schools in fiscal year 2011. Approximately 8,250 children in Dallas, Denton, Collin, Rockwall and Fannin counties received a backpack full of food each weekend during the school year.

KIDS CAFÉ The North Texas Food Bank's Kids Café program began in 1998 as a way to provide nutritious after-school meals to children who may not have enough to eat when they go home from school. The Food Bank currently operates 27 Kids Café sites with generous funding from several donors, including Capital One. More than 245,143 meals were served last year to children in Dallas, Collin and Grayson counties.

MAIN PROGRAM The Main Program of the North Texas Food Bank supplies donated, purchased and prepared foods to local food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and other programs that serve people in need. In fiscal year 2011, the Food Bank's Main Program provided over 25 million pounds of food to Member Agency pantries – 75 percent of all local distributions. Area homeless shelters, day-care centers, soup kitchens and other facilities provided more than 7 million on-site meals and snacks to the hungry in our community.

NUTRITION EDUCATION/OPERATION FRONTLINE In fiscal year 2011, 372 participants were served through 26 six-week classes, a 22% increase from the last fiscal year. Furthermore, 12,287 participants received nutrition education through nutrition workshops, cooking demonstrations, and events in the community targeting low income populations, and over 31,331 nutrition contacts were made.

TEXAS SECOND CHANCE In 1997 the North Texas Food Bank formed a collaborative partnership with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Texas Second Chance allows selected prison confinees to volunteer at the Food Bank up to four days a week. As volunteer laborers, they receive job skills training in warehousing and food service. This training vastly improves participants' ability to successfully reintegrate into the community. Last year participants in the Texas Second Chance program provided more than 10,770 hours of community service for the Food Bank.