

Community Notes

SPRING 2017 | A PUBLICATION OF SECOND HARVEST COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

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Second Harvest Community Food Bank
is a member of Feeding America and
Feeding Missouri.

Senior Hunger Issue

According to America's Health Rankings, Missouri ranks as one of the nation's highest in Senior hunger.

Read about how we are working to fight hunger for low-income seniors on page 2.



COMBATING SENIOR FOOD INSECURITY THROUGH SENIOR BOX PROGRAM

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According to America’s Health Rankings, in 2016, Missouri’s senior food insecurity rate was 19.1%, ranking Missouri one of the highest in the nation.

Seniors need a healthy, consistent diet to help ward off potential health problems that are common in senior citizens, like heart problems, diabetes, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. Nutritious foods help maintain a healthy weight and maintain energy levels.

To help combat senior food insecurity, Second Harvest Community Food Bank works with the USDA to improve the health of low-income elderly persons, at least 60 years of age, by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).

CONTINUED ON PG 3

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OUR MISSION

To feed the hungry in Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas through a network of partner agencies and direct service program and engage the region in the fight to end hunger.

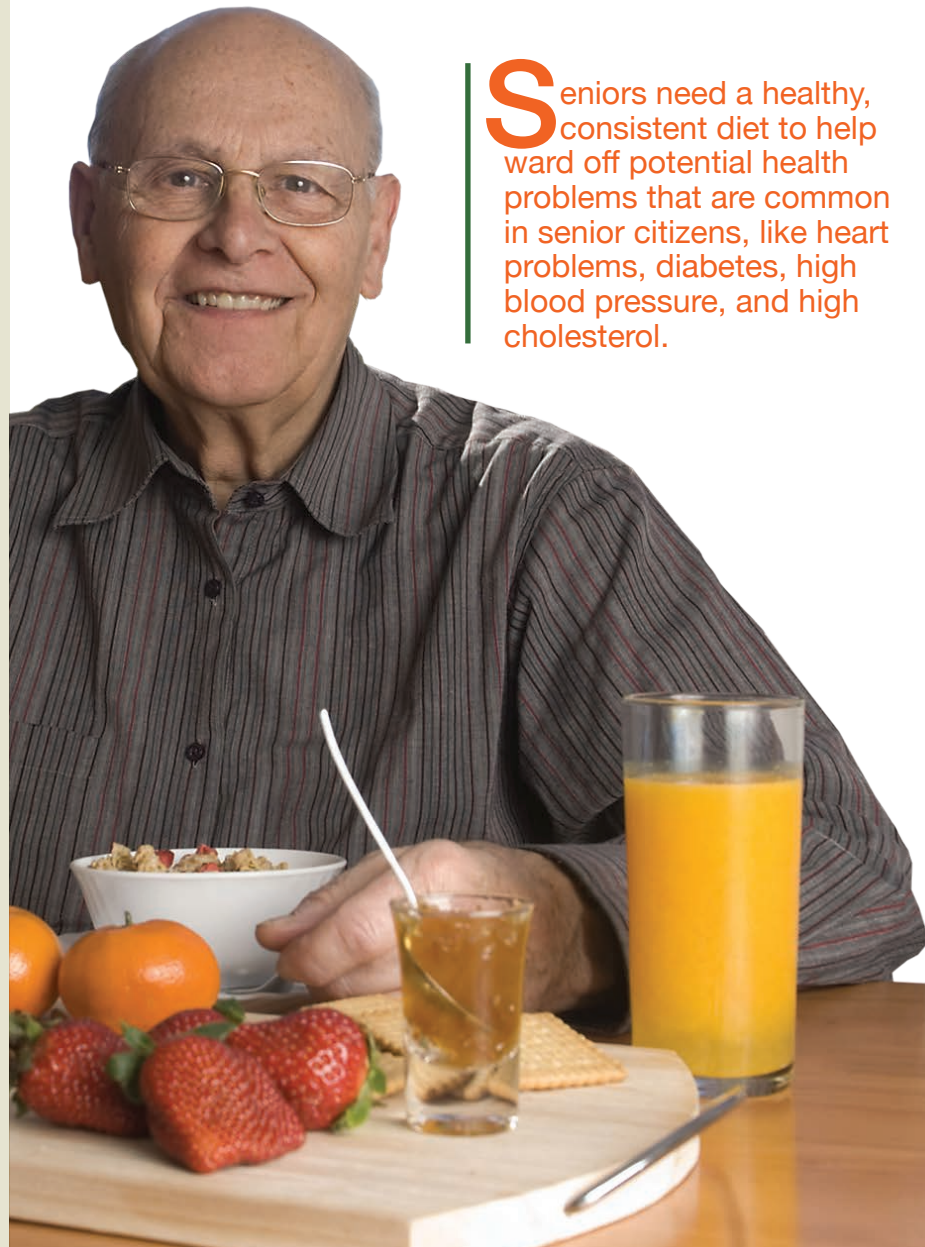
OUR VISION

A hunger-free Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas.

Newsletter is produced by Second Harvest Communications Department. For questions, please contact Michelle Fagerstone at 816-364-3663 x 218

Facebook.com/sec.harv
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OurCommunityFoodBank.org

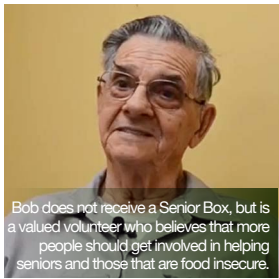


SENIOR BOX PROGRAM

CONTINUED FROM PG 2

Each month, Second Harvest welcomes volunteers from Word of Life Church who assist with our Nourishing Seniors Initiative by packing Senior Boxes with CSFP product. The Senior Boxes weigh approximately 30 pounds and include a variety of foods such as nonfat dry and shelf stable milk, juice, oats, ready-to-eat cereal, rice, pasta, peanut butter, dry beans, canned meat and canned fruits and vegetables.

In 2017, Second Harvest received an increase in CSFP allotment increasing the number of boxes from 843 boxes to 1,219 boxes per month. This has permitted Second Harvest to expand the Senior Box program to all 15 counties within our Missouri territory.



Bob does not receive a Senior Box, but is a valued volunteer who believes that more people should get involved in helping seniors and those that are food insecure.

Sadly, this increase is still not enough to reach all the seniors that qualify for this program. In Buchanan County, CDBG grant funds are used to supply an additional 66 boxes to those on the

waiting list and in Kansas, private funds are used to supply boxes in Hiawatha and Leavenworth.

To find out more about the program and how you can donate to help a senior receive a Senior Box, contact Gayle Stowers at 816-364-3663, ext. 208.



Volunteers from Word of Life Church assist with our Nourishing Seniors Initiative by packing monthly Senior Boxes with CSFP product.

Partner Spotlight WOMEN'S COMMUNITY Y

Walking into the center, you hear little giggles and you can feel the excitement. Turning right you enter a room full of children and if you ask them just how old they are, a chorus of "three" rings out. The room has bright colors, stickers, crayons and tiny little chairs all around. Further in the building is the sound of older kids reading and playing. Lisa Schmidt, Women's Community Y director, explains that currently the facility has 59 children and several of them have parents that once attended daycare at the center.



The Women's Community Y has childcare, preschool and before and after-school programs in place to accommodate the needs of the children. "We are seeing lots of grandparents and even some great-grandparents raising kids," stated Schmidt. Programs like the Women's Community Y assist those caregivers by providing nutritious meals to the kids while they are at the center.

One of our longest Partner Agency relationships is with the Women's Community Y in Leavenworth, Kansas. Organized in 1914 as the YWCA of Leavenworth, in 1994 the organization disaffiliated from the YWCA and the name changed to the Women's Community Y. The primary function of the Women's Community Y is to provide quality care for children 2 1/2 through 11 years of age. The Women's Community Y became a Partner Agency with Second Harvest in 1986.

By being a Partner Agency with Second Harvest, the Women's Community Y is able to receive food through our distribution center, free or at very discounted rates. This helps the center stretch its limited budget and use available funds for programming, training, over-head and upkeep of the building.

For more information on our Partner Agency program, please contact Deb Ramey at 816-364-3663, ext. 207.

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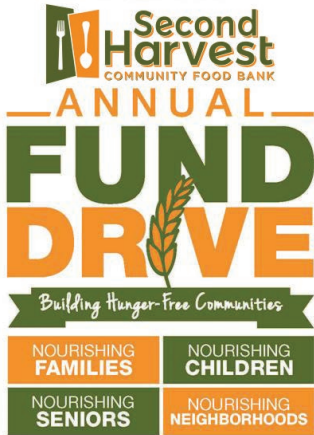


What is a Partner Agency?

An organization, senior center, childcare center, or pantry that works to feed the nearly 54,000 food insecure in our area. Second Harvest covers 19 counties in Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas, and **we work with over 100 Partner Agencies to reach those in need.**

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE TO HELP BUILD HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITIES IN 2017

This past year has been amazing here at Second Harvest Community Food Bank. Through support from our generous donors and community grants, we were able to distribute 5.1 million pounds of food to those in need and to launch our Fresh Mobile Pantry.



In keeping with our mission, Second Harvest has set a campaign goal of \$650,000 for 2017. For 36 years Second Harvest Community Food Bank has been building a hunger-free Northwest Missouri and Northeast Kansas.

Each year Second Harvest Community Food Bank focuses its work on four primary initiatives: Nourishing Children, Nourishing Seniors, Nourishing Families and Nourishing Neighborhoods. Working closely with our 100 Partner Agencies, Second Harvest serves over 54,000 food insecure individuals in our nineteen county area.

We know that you can donate your hard-earned money to a number of charitable organizations. That's why we feel it is important for you to know that your donation is being used wisely. Of all resources donated to Second Harvest, 96% goes directly to food acquisition, distribution and programs. Second Harvest has earned its fifth consecutive 4-star rating with Charity Navigator and is an accredited charity with the Better Business Bureau.

Your thoughtful, tax-deductible gift will help go toward **Building Hunger-Free Communities**. For more information, contact Gayle Stowers at 816-364-3663 ext. 208 or visit our website at www.ourcommunityfoodbank.org

Mark Your Calendars



April

- 25 – Empty Bowls Luncheon
- 30 – Backpack Buddies Bowl-a-thon

May

- 10 – McDonalds Coaches Challenge
- 13 – National Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
- 30 & 31 – Canned Film Festival @ 10:00am

June

- 1-Annual Fund Wrap-up
- Canned Film Festival every Tues. & Wed. @ 10:00am
- No Hunger Summer

July

- Canned Film Festival every Tues. & Wed. @ 10:00am
- No Hunger Summer

August

- No Hunger Summer

September

- Hunger Action Month
- Corporate Food Fight
- 22 & 23 – Blue Grass Battles Hunger

October

- Scouting for Food

November

- Mayor's Thanksgiving Dinner
- Turkey Day

THE EVOLUTION OF SECOND HARVEST COMMUNITY FOOD BANK LOGO

