AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Foodbank will be closed on May 26, 2014 in observance of Memorial Day.
- Conversion to the new E-Ordering system is underway.
- Sign up for an Agency Roundtable.
- Fax on Demand will no longer be available after June 30, 2014.

OUR SNAP REFERRAL SYSTEM

Do you know how many of your clients are eligible for SNAP benefits? Many clients don’t know if they are eligible. The Foodbank is committed to providing support for clients eligible to receive SNAP benefits. Our staff is available to clients via our toll free phone number, 855.560.0850, and visits to food distributions, but now our member agencies can work in partnership with the Foodbank to assist clients in accessing SNAP benefits through our referral system.

The process is quick and simple. Staff and volunteers at the member agency screen clients by asking whether or not they currently have the Ohio Direction Card. If the client does not currently have the Ohio Direction Card and is interested in applying for benefits, the member agency completes a short form with the client and sends the form to the Foodbank’s SNAP Outreach staff via email at snaprefferal@acrfb.org. The Foodbank will handle the rest! Our staff will call the client, complete a food assistance application over the phone and guide the client through the process of receiving benefits.

Agencies that become a SNAP referral site and complete 24 referrals by the end of 2014 will be eligible for a SNAP All-Star Agency Grant.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the SNAP referral system or to receive more information, contact Laura Vanzo at 330.535.6900 or lvanzo@acrfb.org.

CHEF QUINN FROM US FOODS TEACHES HEALTHY COOKING

Chef Quinn kicked off our 2014 Agency Roundtable sessions with a fun, interactive cooking demonstration in the Foodbank Kitchen. SEE INSIDE FOR MORE
AGENCY ROUNDTABLE SERIES COMING TO YOUR COUNTY

This year, the Foodbank will host a series of Agency Roundtable sessions to facilitate communication and cooperation within our network this year. We are eager and excited to bring these sessions to a community near you. The Agency Roundtable sessions will feature a variety of content, from educational workshops to community conversations and will take place throughout our eight county service area.

All agencies are welcome and encouraged to attend the Agency Roundtable sessions. For those agencies that did not send a representative to the 2013 Network Summit, attendance at an Agency Roundtable will reinstate eligibility for grant funded product. We ask that all emergency feeding sites attend at least one roundtable session this year.

The Agency Roundtable sessions will have one of two general themes. They will either focus on a geographic region or on a topic of interest to the network. The geographic region roundtables are meant to be an opportunity for member agencies to network with one another and discuss opportunities at the local level. The topics for the remaining Agency Roundtables were selected based off of interest from the network.

A full description of each session, including times and locations, is on the Foodbank’s website at akroncantonfoodbank.org/agency-roundtables.aspx.

Space is limited for our Agency Roundtable sessions. The RSVP process is simple. Representatives can use the above link to RSVP online or call Adrienne Bradley at 330.535.6900 or abradley@acrfb.org.

### BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Summit County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 12</td>
<td>Wayne &amp; Holmes County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 7</td>
<td>Medina &amp; Wayne County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 14</td>
<td>Tuscarawas, Carroll &amp; Holmes County</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA in Sep</td>
<td>Portage &amp; Stark County</td>
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### BY SPECIAL INTEREST TOPIC

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 23</td>
<td>PantryTrak: Tales from the Pantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>How to Handle Difficult Clients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 10 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Oh SNAP!</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA in Jul</td>
<td>Cooking Demonstration with Chef Sherri from Shy Cellars</td>
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CHEF QUINN

Chef Chris Quinn, Division Chef for US Foods, visited the Foodbank in March to host a hands-on cooking demonstration for 15 member agency volunteers. US Foods is a great partner to the Foodbank. Not only do they donate a large amount of food, Shawn McCall, President of US Foods, is also one of the three honorary co-chairs of this year’s Harvest for Hunger campaign.

The ingredients of the day were chicken, vegetables and grains. With a healthy and versatile recipe, Chef Quinn walked class participants through the process of creating a chicken stock from scratch, how to properly break down a chicken and how to add zesty flavor to grains.

While the delicious food was cooking, Chef Quinn had time to discuss the use of various items, including fennel and leeks. He asked for suggestions on possible future topics, as he is excited for the opportunity to come back to the Foodbank kitchen to share resources with our network. Watch for dates of upcoming cooking demonstrations in your e-mail.

Chef Quinn regularly updates his Facebook and Twitter page with interesting, easy recipes. Check him out for more great tips and recipes:

facebook.com/quinneyskitchen
twitter.com/Quinney23
LEARN ABOUT THE FARM BILL

WHAT IS THE FARM BILL?
Every five years, the Farm Bill determines eating and farming policy in the U.S. including what we grow and eat, how much it costs, and where and how food is grown. It funds an array of agricultural programs, from farm subsidies and conservation programs to nutrition related programs. Congress passed the most recent Farm Bill in February of 2014.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?
The Farm Bill is vital to our work in the emergency food assistance network because it dictates funding for SNAP and TEFAP, as well as the regulations surrounding these programs. Our Foodbank, along with Feeding America, were heavily involved in advocacy efforts to ensure that the programs which exist to help our clients remained intact during a time of severe federal budget cuts.

HOW WILL THE FARM BILL IMPACT US?
Below are a few highlights from the Nutrition Title of the Farm Bill that will impact food banks:

• $8.55 billion cut to SNAP by tightening the “Heat and Eat” policy, which does not affect Ohioans, but causes an estimated 850,000 low-income households to lose an average of $90 in monthly benefits.
• $205 million increase for TEFAP. The TEFAP funding would be frontloaded to provide greater resources in the initial three years of the bill, and is indexed for food price inflation. The bill allows states to transfer up to 10% of the funding into TEFAP storage and distribution grants.
• Improves SNAP access by allowing SNAP home delivery for homebound seniors and disabled participants.
• Promotes access to nutritious food by tightening stocking requirements for SNAP retailers and testing new ways to use EBT cards (for example, swiping on a mobile device at a farmer’s market).

Nutrition programs specifically addressing childhood hunger, such as CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program), SFSP (Summer Food Service Program) and WIC (The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children) are funded and regulated through the Child Nutrition Act Reauthorization, which will take place in 2015.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?
Help the Foodbank by becoming an advocate! Contact Colleen Benson at cbenson@acrfb.org to sign up and help.

NETWORK VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Many of our member agency staff and volunteers know Dave Puterbaugh. He is one of the founders of the Alliance Community Pantry in Stark County, which is one of the largest agencies in the Foodbank’s eight county service area.

Dave began his partnership with the Foodbank in 2006, when he organized a Direct Distribution once a month in Alliance with the local Kiwanis club. Dave soon realized that the need in his community was too great to only have a food distribution once a month. He worked diligently to secure a building, recruit volunteers and find funding to establish the Alliance Community Pantry in 2010. In just a few short years, his pantry has become a model of excellence in our network. Dave has been the President of the Board of the Alliance Community Pantry since 2010.

This year, Dave decided to step down as the Board President, but will still be active with the pantry. In recognition of his commitment to the fight against hunger, he was honored with the 2014 Network Volunteer Leadership Award at the Foodbank’s Annual Volunteer Celebration on April 8th. This is the first year the Network Leadership Award has been given and will be awarded annually to an outstanding volunteer from the member agency network.

THINK SUSTAINABILITY

The Foodbank is committed to being environmentally responsible and supporting the communities in which we serve. Please return empty cardboard boxes and pallets to the Foodbank to be recycled.

COMPLIANCE REMINDERS

With the Easter Holiday in April, it is important to remember the Foodbank’s policy around religious activities at a food distribution. Refer to points 25 & 26 of the Membership & Liability Agreement for further direction.

Agencies are permitted to hold religious services, but must make it clear to the client that they are not required to attend the service to receive food, and must provide a safe space for clients to wait while the service is happening.

Further, agencies may not treat a client differently if they elect not to participate in a religious service. Clients choosing not to participate in a service or activity must be treated in the same manner in which those who did take part have been treated.

The Foodbank has a template flyer that agencies can use to communicate their distribution times and service times to clients. If your agency is interested in using our flyer, please contact your Member Services representative and request an electronic copy.
MARKETPLACE COOLER

The new MarketPlace cooler is up and running! With the new addition to the MarketPlace, the Foodbank is able to provide a greater variety of items from which agencies may choose, including more fresh produce and dairy options. The new cooler also aligns with our commitment to high standards of food safety.

MarketPlace items are now being separated and weighed into four categories:

- Produce
- Dairy
- Non-Food Items
- General (includes all other MarketPlace food)

Agencies will shop general and non-food items outside the cooler first, followed by produce and dairy items inside the cooler.

Once shopping in MarketPlace is complete, your agency must weigh the items by category instead of weighing all items together. A separate receipt is then printed for each category of items, and a sticker representing the category weighed must be placed on the receipt (shown below). The receipts will need to be given to the Distribution office staff when your agency checks out.

Agency appointments remain one-half hour in length, which includes both loading your order and shopping the MarketPlace. Foodbank staff and volunteers will be in the MarketPlace to assist you with this new process. The limit of two volunteers/staff per member agency in the MarketPlace remains in effect.

A few tips to maximize your MarketPlace shopping experience:

- Put on a MarketPlace ID badge before attempting to enter the MarketPlace.
- Stay within the boundaries set by the yellow guard rails.
- Manage your appointment time to shop MarketPlace and load your vehicle.
- Group items together by category to make weighing by category easier.

If you have any questions about the new MarketPlace, call 330.535.6900 and ask for the Member Services department.

STAFFING CHANGES

As the Foodbank’s agency network has grown and the types of programs operated by our agencies have changed, we have determined that administrative changes could be made to improve and provide a greater service to our member agencies. As a result, we’ve divided the Member Services Department into three functional teams and promoted staff members, Gary Green and Adrienne Bradley, to management positions.

Gary Green is now the Manager, Member Services and Adrienne Bradley is the Manager, Programs. This change will ensure greater continuity of management for programs and activities that serve special populations, such as youth. Member agencies experiencing a change in their Foodbank representative were notified in February.

Further, in June our Americorps VISTA’s Mary Ann Mills and Kate Laubacher will complete their year long term serving as Ohio Benefit Bank Community Organizer’s. We would like to thank Mary Ann and Kate for their support of our network during their time here and wish them best in their future endeavors.

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