Changes to Annual Agreement

The annual agreement you and all of our hunger-relief partners sign has been updated for 2016 to provide additional guidance as it relates to proper uses of food and other essential items obtained from the Foodbank.

In addition, the agreement will get a refresh to reflect our focus on partnering within the communities we serve. Previously referred to as the “Membership & Liability Agreement” will now be called the “Network Partnership & Liability Agreement.” We are also asking for signatures on the agreement from your staff or volunteer who serves as the main program contact as well as the highest authority at your organization.

For example, if Hope Church is a partner of the Foodbank, the senior pastor, trustee or highest authority of Hope Church will need to sign the agreement, not only the program contact. The reason for this change is to ensure organizational leadership understands the partnership with the Foodbank and acknowledges organizational responsibility for the program.

Updates to items already in the agreement:

16. Will keep adequate client records and maintain a copy of all Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank invoices for a period of five (5) years. These records will be kept at the program site and are subject to review by representatives of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, food donors and appropriate government entities.

24. Will NOT require money, volunteer service or for clients to perform work in exchange for food received from Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank.

25. Will NOT use food as an incentive or for activities that coerce, require or promote religious affiliation or church membership.

29. Will NOT direct food to any other organization, with the exception of perishable items that need to be distributed to maintain quality. Perishable items may only change hands one time to other approved member agencies and in this event complete and accurate redistribution documentation must be kept by the distributing agency.

New to the Agreement:

27. Will NOT use Foodbank food for organization fundraising events or other non-approved programmatic activities.

In addition, the Foodbank is now asking that the highest authority at the church/organization to sign the annual agreement.

If you have questions about the updated Network Partnership & Liability Agreement, please contact a member of your assigned team. Thank you for all you do!
NUTRITION EDUCATION PACKETS AVAILABLE

Thanks to a grant from Walmart, the Foodbank has nutrition education packets available for you to share with your clients. Included in the packet is a My Plate banner and brochures related to reading food labels, healthy eating on a budget and with limited time, and incorporating My Plate into every day diets. These materials are meant to assist clients in learning more about the importance of healthy eating and nutrition.

There are ten nutrition packets available to network partners free of charge. In exchange for receiving a packet, the Foodbank may request pictures or stories about the value of the materials to share with the funder. If your hunger-relief program is interested in receiving a nutrition education packet, please contact Katie Carver Reed, Programs Services Leader at kcarver@acrfb.org or 330.777.7577 to reserve your nutrition education packet.

2016 ANNUAL SITE VISITS

This year, a new structure will begin for annual site visits and ongoing network partner support. There will no longer be one staff member assigned to your account; rather, a team of people will be here to support your programs!

The teams, Team Apple and Team Bread, will work in collaboration to ensure that proper support is given to each network partner. Each quarter, the team will determine the schedule for site visits and a team member will come to complete your site visit. Throughout the year, your program can call the Foodbank and ask for a member of your team to receive additional support.

TEFAP TRAINING OVERVIEW

The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank will be hosting TEFAP training for all food pantry programs this June. This training is mandatory for all food pantry programs including programs currently using PantryTrak. Each food pantry program must send a minimum of one (1) staff member or volunteer to one of the seven (7) available training sessions.

Each session will cover compliance requirements for civil rights, USDA & State commodities and PantryTrak. In addition, the training will guide you through correctly completing the TEFAP form. At the end of the session, participants will receive the new 2016-2017 TEFAP form which will be effective July 1, 2016. All completed older versions of the form must be stored by the end of June 30, 2016, and any blank versions of older forms must be destroyed.

Please note, this training is MANDATORY and will not count towards grant eligibility. Any food pantry program failing to attend one of the trainings will be excluded from ordering USDA and state commodities.

To register for one of the trainings, visit akroncantonfoodbank.org/agency/events. If you have questions, please contact Jill Oldham, Director, Network Partners and Programs at joldham@acrfb.org or 330.777.7574.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

COOKING DEMONSTRATION WITH CHEF QUINN
Tuesday May 24 1pm - 3pm

PANTRYTRAK TRAINING
Monday May 16 9:30 - 11:30am
Wednesday June 1 9:30 - 11:30am

NEW PARTNER ORIENTATION
Wednesday May 25 9am - 4pm
Wednesday June 22 9am - 4pm

New Partner Orientation includes Civil Rights and Food Safety Training. Due to time limitations, please bring a bagged lunch since there will not be enough time to leave the Foodbank. Please note, lunch will not be provided. Refrigeration for your bagged lunch will be available.

Have you had a change to key staff or volunteers with your program? They are encouraged to attend the full New Partner Orientation. To RSVP, visit akroncantonfoodbank.org/agency/events, or contact Gary Green, Senior Manager, Partner Services, at 330.777.7575 or ggreen@acrfb.org.