NETWORK INSIDER

OCTOBER 2019 | A publication for Network Partners of the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank





ANNOUNCEMENTS

- MarketPlace-only appointments can be made Monday-Friday beginning at 8AM. Contact the distribution office for more details.
- The annual network partner feedback survey will launch in October. Check your email, and please be sure to respond!

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CLIENT ASSISTANCE

855.560.0850 toll free acrfb.org/agency-map

TO PLACE AN ORDER

Call: 330.253.7054

Toll free: 800.673.6490

Online: go.acrfb.org/order

SCHEDULED OFP/OACP

Wide Ribbon Noodles, Canned Corn, Green Beans, Tomato Soup, Spaghetti Rings, Canned Peas, Applesauce Unsweetened, Baked Beans, Chicken Noodle Soup

SCHEDULED USDA

Canned Peas, Canned Applesauce,
Vegetable Oil, Rice Crisp Cereal,
Fresh Pears, Canned Tomato
Soup, Egg Noodles, Canned
Beef Stew, Canned Mixed
Vegetables, Canned Corn, Eggs,
Cream of Chicken Soup, Fresh
Apples, Elbow Macaroni, Canned
Potatoes, Frozen Blueberries



Proud member of Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hungerrelief charity.

Foodbank Expansion Plans in Canton

At the Network Summit, Foodbank President & CEO Dan Flowers shared details of the Foodbank's expansion plans in Canton. The Foodbank owns property on Cherry Avenue NE and plans to build an additional facility to serve our southern region by 2021.

This facility will include a warehouse for order pickup, a MarketPlace area, a food pantry for the community, and collaborative space to promote community partnerships. This facility is part of the strategy to close the Meal Gap by 2025.

In addition to the new facility in Canton, the main campus in Akron will be expanded and include a new network partner service area.

Network partners were given the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback about the facility design. Here are some of the questions asked:

Q: WILL I BE ALLOWED TO CHOOSE WHERE TO PICK UP MY ORDER?

A: Network partners will not experience changes to ordering procedures and will be allowed to choose the location from which they want to pick up their order. Partners will not be assigned a pickup location.

Q: WHEN WILL THE FACILITY OPEN?

A: Current plans indicate around Spring 2021.

Q: WILL THE CANTON FACILITY STILL HAVE THE OPTION FOR MARKETPLACE?

A: Yes.

If you have more questions about the Foodbank's expansion plans please call the Network Partners and Programs department.



Network partners come together for biennial Network Summit

The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank is the source of food for nearly 500 food pantries, hot meal sites, shelters, backpack programs, and other hunger-relief programs in an eight-county service area. It's this network of partners that fight hunger on the front lines, serving families in neighborhoods and communities where people need food.



Throughout the year, the Foodbank offers the network a variety of opportunities for engagement, including collaborative networking events with other food programs, trainings, cooking demonstrations, and roundtable discussions covering helpful topics, such as grant writing, marketing and board/volunteer development.

Every other year, the Foodbank also hosts a Network Summit with the goal of bringing all its partners together to learn from one another, share best practices, and brainstorm ways to grow and evolve their programs.

This year, more than 120 attendees representing 80 hunger-relief partners joined us in August at NEOMED for the Summit. President and CEO Dan Flowers welcomed the group, the majority being volunteers, thanking them for being the hearts and hands of the network.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Terry Gordon, a nationally-recognized cardiologist who takes a spiritual approach to all facets of his life after nearly losing his son in a car accident. He discussed the difficulties programs may face in service to others, and gave examples of how to overcome obstacles and find the positive in all situations. He motivated attendees by inspiring them to continue to work hard within their communities, as he worked hard to transform his personal suffering into life lessons. "If we are to grow, we must face greater and greater obstacles. It's only by overcoming those obstacles that we grow."



The Director of the Network Partners and Programs department, Jill Oldham, highlighted updates about the Foodbank's work and shared future plans that will enhance regional hunger-fighting efforts for generations to come.

"We believe our work in creating thriving communities is ensuring that everyone has the food they need. We'll do this by reaching further into areas that need it most and by feeding more people," she said. "We can solve the problem of hunger. Unlike other illnesses, we have the cure. Our vision of a community where there is enough food for all, where there is access to healthy, affordable foods and where children have the energy and nutrients needed to grow, develop, think and learn is possible."

REMINDER: THE FOODBANK IS A TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS

Thank you for helping make the Foodbank a tobacco-free campus. As a reminder, this means that visitors to the Foodbank cannot use any tobacco products, including cigarettes, e-cigarettes and chewing tobacco, while on the Foodbank's property. If visitors must use tobacco products, they must do so off the Foodbank's property. Please remind all volunteers and staff picking up orders at the Foodbank of this policy.

