

ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA FOOD BANKS

The Association of Arizona Food Banks
welcomes you to our 25th Anniversary Kick-off Reception.

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Thank you for your support and dedication to our cause!

With your help, and working in collaboration with others, AAFB has made a difference in the lives of thousands of Arizonans struggling with hunger over the past 25 years.

Consider that our advocacy efforts have resulted in the passage of the Charity Food Bank Act (1986), the Charitable Crop Contribution Bill (1993), the Food Bank Governmental Incentive Bill (1996), and the Joint Legislative Committee on Hunger Bill (2003).

In addition, AAFB also:

- Advocated for and won the first state funding to support community food security in the nation.
- Created the Hunger Hurts Us All Coalition which achieved passage of legislation to strengthen Arizona's Good Samaritan Food Donation Act and new state funding for anti-hunger programs.
- Started the Arizona Statewide Gleaning Project, which has yielded 767 million pounds of food since 1993.
- Maintains a statewide toll-free hot line to access the food bank network for donations and referrals.
- Established strong partnerships with federal food and nutrition programs, businesses and religious leaders.
- Initiated coordination efforts to provide and improve emergency food services on AZ Indian Reservations.
- Created national anti-hunger legislation for such programs as TEFAP, WIC, and Food Stamps.
- Coordinated the response of Arizona food banks to 13 natural disasters.

OUR MISSION

To deliver food and quality services to food banks and foster relationships in support of our commitment to eliminate hunger.

Established in 1984, AAFB is a support organization serving its five member regional food bank warehouses and a network of nearly 1,700 food pantries and agencies in Arizona. Major activities include: developing more food resources, promoting nutrition, advocating for public policy changes to help hungry people, fostering cooperation among food banks and networking with government, local, state and national leaders dedicated to ending hunger and engaging all sectors of society in hunger awareness and sensitivity. The Association of Arizona Food Banks is not a food bank - we help make food banking better.

Association of Arizona Food Banks

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25 WAYS TO CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF AAFB

1. Encourage everyone to give a quarter! If every person in Arizona donated just 25 cents to AAFB, we would raise over \$1.6 million to deliver more than 40 million pounds of food in a year.
2. Contribute 25 cans – a case plus one – of any nutritious non-perishable food to your local food bank.
3. Commit to giving 25 hours of your time this year by volunteering at your local food bank.
4. Make a \$25 monthly donation (\$300 annually) to deliver 75lbs of food to food banks each month.
5. Become a fan of AAFB on Facebook (www.facebook.com/azfoodbanks), follow us on Twitter (@aafb), or sign-up for our bi-weekly newsletter on our website.
6. Give \$25 – and 12 families who call us are helped to find multiple food assistance resources.
7. Have children collect pennies and tape them to a 25 ft long string to donate them to AAFB.
8. Take the SNAP/Food Stamp Challenge, where you commit to live on the average SNAP allocation of \$110.74 per person - \$1.47 per meal - for 25 days and share your experience with AAFB.
9. Establish an ongoing food or funds drive with your faith community, employer, or HOA group.
10. Give \$250 – and help us send an edition of our FOOD LINES newsletter to 250 new readers.
11. Celebrate a birthday, wedding, anniversary, the holidays, or other special occasion with a contribution to AAFB in honor or memory of family members, friends, or colleagues.
12. Get state and federal legislative updates regarding hunger related activities by emailing ghildebrand@azfoodbanks.org with “Subscribe to AAFB Advocacy” in the subject line.
13. Give \$2,500 – and send a nationally known Arizona advocate to Washington to speak on improving child nutrition programs.
14. Talk to your friends and neighbors about hunger in Arizona, and encourage them to volunteer, donate, or advocate for eliminating hunger.
15. Invite an AAFB staff member to speak at your civic, faith, or professional group.
16. Give \$25,000 – and send an entire semi-truck full of purchased boxed pasta meals to a food bank.
17. Include AAFB in your will, donate stocks, or name AAFB as a beneficiary on your insurance policies.
18. If you have backyard or neighborhood citrus that you can't consume, commit before the end of the year to donate it to your local food bank.
19. If you already donate to AAFB, increase your next contribution by 25%.
20. Encourage your co-workers, school groups, and faith community to volunteer at a food bank – an excellent team-building opportunity!
21. Ask your neighborhood school if they participate in summer feeding programs and how you can promote making nutritious food available when school is out. Also ask about school breakfast and lunch programs!
22. Give \$250,000 – and completely run our semi-truck fleet for 10 months, delivering approximately 34 million pounds of food (26.6 million meals) to Arizona food banks.
23. Blog about AAFB, food banks, or hunger issues in Arizona.
24. Help yourself to a 2009 tax credit worth as much as \$400 by donating to AAFB before December 31. Don't forget to consult your tax advisor!
- 25. YOU are our most powerful ambassador - tell a friend you support AAFB!**