



Association
of Arizona
Food Banks

A • R • I • Z • O • N • A FOOD LINES

MAY 2009

UPDATE: CHILD NUTRITION AND WIC REAUTHORIZATION ACT

This year, Congress is scheduled to act on the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (CNR), which is up for review every five years and set to expire this September. The CNR traces its roots back to legislation originally signed into law by Lyndon B. Johnson in 1966, and encapsulates many programs, including:

- National School Lunch Program (NSLP)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The USDA recently hosted sessions throughout the country to better understand concerns at the local level. A summary of these sessions can be viewed at www.fns.usda.gov/cga/sessions, indicating that special emphasis be placed on:

- Strengthening program management and improving nutrition standards.
- Ensuring all who are eligible have access to program benefits.
- Advancing technology and innovation.

CNR programs impact millions of children's lives daily and have been shown to improve educational achievement and overall health and development. Complete details, including a Statement of Principles developed by child and hunger advocates to share with Congress on working together to make changes in the legislation this year, can be found by clicking on the Child Nutrition Center at www.frac.org.

Both the House and Senate have completed CNR budget drafts with a "Deficit Neutral Reserve Fund," meaning no new money has been secured and the only way to get additional funds is to have it redirected from other programs per the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees. The first CNR bill is expected to come to light in late May or early June. Bookmark www.azfoodbanks.org for updates.

JOIN THE AAFB ADVOCACY TEAM

Stay current on activities at the state and federal level and learn how you can make a difference by sending an email with "Subscribe to AAFB Advocacy Team" in the subject line to ghildebrand@azfoodbanks.org.

Dear Friends,

As we observe a lack of movement toward a 2010 budget solution in the Legislature, it has become apparent neither our efforts alone, nor the efforts of existing coalitions would be effective in motivating action. We needed to be part of a coalition with a broader base, a stronger voice and the ability to research and propose viable solutions.



On May 4, the Association of Arizona Food Banks joined forces with many major community organizations to promote new solutions to the current state budget crisis. The Arizona Budget Coalition (ABC) organized to promote alternative solutions and stop massive cuts to education, health and human services, and critical jobs in state government. ABC developed a menu of more than \$4 billion in fair and reasonable alternatives from all political viewpoints for solving Arizona's budget deficit.

ABC is organized around a clear set of principles, including:

- Open and transparent budget process.
- Restore massive cuts made in fiscal year 2009 budget.
- Do no further harm through additional cuts.
- Use all available options to balance Arizona's budget.
- Keep people working so our economy can recover.
- Create fair and adequate tax structure.
- Preserve state revenue-sharing.

AAFB has already sustained cuts that have eliminated funds for food purchases, the co-op certificate program and support for education and training. Annualized for the 2009-10 fiscal year, AAFB would lose more than half of its previous state funding. Cuts currently proposed could eliminate state funding for food banks and other human service programs, increasing the burden on food banks by providing fewer resources to meet demand.

ABC and AAFB stand united in urging Governor Brewer and the Legislature to balance the budget through a comprehensive approach, without massive cuts to critical programs, education and services, so Arizona can build a future. Keep track of the latest developments at www.azfoodbanks.org and www.arizonabudgetcoalition.com.

Your financial support and your voice on Arizona's 2010 budget and our mission during this challenging time are very much appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ginny Hildebrand
President & CEO



Association of Arizona Food Banks

Helping Make Food Banking Better Since 1984

OUR MEMBER FOOD BANKS

- Community Food Bank
- Desert Mission Food Bank
- St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance
- United Food Bank
- Yuma Community Food Bank

2008 2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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ASBURY COMMUNITY GARDEN

Down at Asbury United Methodist Church on 16th Avenue and Indian School Road in central Phoenix, a community is coming together to make families food secure. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) has selected eighteen families, fifteen of which are refugees, to receive a 4 foot by 8 foot plot of land, donated by the church, on which to plant and harvest food. Only organic gardening methods will be used to plant citrus and deciduous trees, vegetables that grow well in Arizona, and eventually, chickens will be housed to produce eggs. Any extra crop beyond what each family can use will be sold at the Downtown Phoenix Public Market. For now however, seed donations and volunteers are welcome. Contact Kelli Donley at africankelli@gmail.com to help out.



The first trees to be planted at Asbury Community Garden.

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, the Association 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. Its vision is achieving a hunger-free 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, as well as, 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.

HELP US SAVE COSTS

Help us tighten our belt by receiving FOOD LINES in your inbox. While a print version will be available, saving on printing and postage costs will allow us to spend more money on our mission, namely to deliver food to those who need it most! Email brian@azfoodbanks.org to receive future issues via email.

FOOD LINES is a quarterly publication of the Association of Arizona Food Banks. It is published in October, December, March, and May.

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ARIZONA STATEWIDE GLEANING PROJECT

"A program of the Association of Arizona Food Banks"

(602) 528-0740

EFFECTS OF CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS ON FOOD SUPPLIES

by Jami Kakinuma

We've all read about it in the news recently: increasing unemployment, record-high home foreclosures, businesses cutting back in many ways to keep their doors open, and state budget cuts affecting services. All of this has caused our food banks here in Arizona to see more people needing food assistance, many that have never needed to ask for assistance in the past.

As a result, the Arizona Statewide Gleaning Project (ASGP) and the food banks have needed to purchase more food over the past year and a half as the increase in need has outstripped donations, leaving a large gap in the food banks' inventories. In this fiscal year, ASGP has purchased over 10 semi-truckloads of food that have been distributed to the food banks. These purchased foods include tuna,



rice, cereal, macaroni and cheese, juice, pasta, pasta sauce, soup, turkeys, and fresh produce.

In addition, the Federal Stimulus has also provided a huge influx of bonus and entitlement food from The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), helping stabilize the basic food needs in urban and rural areas of the state. Bonus TEFAP in 2009 included such valuable items as frozen chicken, canned orange and grapefruit

juice, frozen blueberries and more. The ASGP plays a critical role in redistributing TEFAP food between our member food banks so it reaches all the communities who need it.

There is more TEFAP bonus on the way, with over \$2 million worth of product scheduled for 2009-10 delivery, including:

- 63 semi-truckloads of non-fat dry milk or shelf-stable milk.
- 27 truckloads of canned apricots.
- 4 truckloads of walnuts.

As this TEFAP bonus starts rolling into Arizona, the ASGP stands ready to help redistribute the food to the food banks so everyone gets a share. As the need remains strong in these uncertain economic times, we hope donations and TEFAP continue to help with the fight against hunger.

AAFB CREDIT CARD DONATION FORM

2100 North Central Ave., #230 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Tel: 800-445-1914 Fax: 602-528-3838

YES! I want a hunger free Arizona. Please charge my one time tax-deductible contribution in the amount of \$_____ to my credit card.

I would like to be a monthly donor by using my credit card.

I authorize AAFB to make a monthly deduction from my credit card in the amount of \$_____ on the **5th** or **20th** (circle one) of the month starting _____. This authorization will remain in effect until I notify AAFB in writing that I wish to discontinue the contributions.

Simply check the card type, fill in your card number, expiration date, 3-digit security code from the back of your card, and sign this form. Then just clip and mail in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your donation!

CARD TYPE: Visa MasterCard American Express Discover/NOVUS

Card Number

_____/_____
Expiration Date

3-Digit Code

Signature of Cardholder

Daytime Phone

Questions? Please call our Director of Development at (602) 528-3434, ext. 18.

THE EXPRESS LANE

CRAVING THE LATEST AND GREATEST?

Want the latest from AAFB, our member food banks and news from around Arizona? Subscribe to the bi-weekly AAFB Email Newsletter today by emailing Brian Simpson at brian@azfoodbanks.org!

Bookmark the AAFB Event Calendar:
www.azfoodbanks.org/?action=events

Check us out on Change:
www.change.org/azfoodbanks

Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/aafb



FEEDING AMERICA NATIONAL CONFERENCE RECAP

On April 1-3, 2009, Feeding America held their annual conference in Orlando, Florida, bringing together executive staff from food banks, state associations and the Feeding America national office to discuss issues and trends facing food banks. AAFB's own Jami Kakinuma and Brian Simpson attended.

Highlights included lectures on the economy by Atlantic Monthly senior editor Clive Crook, and on being "non-profit-like" by New York University public service professor Paul C. Light. Attendees learned about store donation programs,

coordinated food purchasing, branding, technology, SNAP/Food Stamp outreach, fundraising, and more. Actor David Arquette helped build emergency food boxes alongside attendees during the conference service project.

View Clive Crook's presentation:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=smsFPC3-pt0

View Paul C. Light's presentation:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1r14ye72SVY

Feeding America:
www.feedingamerica.org

HICKMAN'S FAMILY FARMS DONATES EGGS FOR EASTER

Arizona's Hickman's Family Farms donated 290,000 eggs to AAFB's five member food banks as part of United Egg Producers contribution to Feeding America's national campaign. The eggs provided much needed protein, which helps kids and adults build muscle strength while also helping older adults prevent muscle loss. Not to mention the countless Easter egg hunts that brightened many a child's day.

FOOD LINES

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