

Agency Scoop



March 2023

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

- March 2 Westhope, Lignite, Wildrose
- March 3 Tioga, Trenton
- March 7 Harvey, Drake, New Rockford, Wimbledon
- March 8 Litchville, Tokio, Minnewaukan, Devils Lake & Langdon
- March 29 Fort Totten, Leeds

[View Upcoming Mobile Stop Details Here](#)

SAVE THE DATE:

Partner Lunch & Learn

March 21st @ 12PM CST
Topic: SNAP Education
Speaker: Heather Martinez, GPFB SNAP Outreach Coordinator.
Meeting via Microsoft Teams. Email invite coming soon.

PWW Office Hours

March 27th @ 3PM CST
If you need a refresher on how to utilize your PWW partner account this session is for you. Join us for an informal Q/A session.
Meeting via Microsoft Teams. Email invite coming soon.

Civil Rights Training

April 19th @ 3-4:30 PM CST
This training is required for all Agency Partners. Please make arrangements with your schedule to attend.
Meeting via Microsoft Teams. More details will be announced soon.

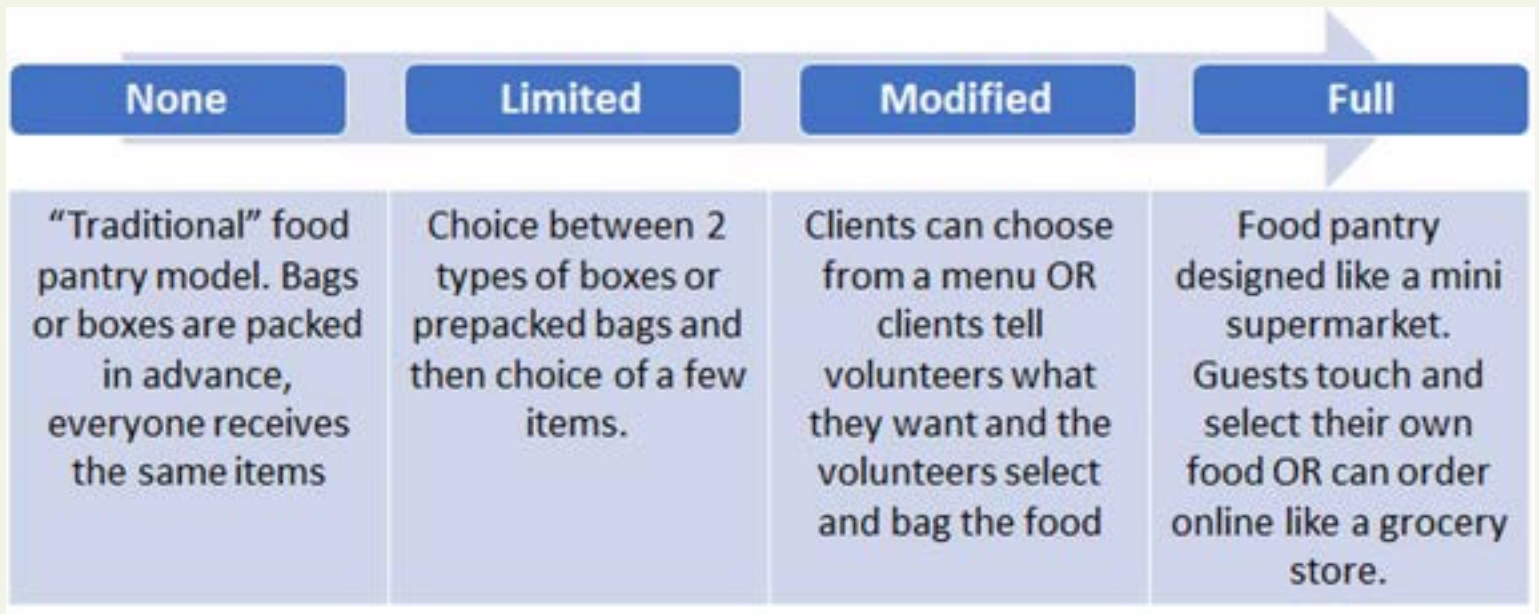
CONTINUUM OF CHOICE

"Offering choice can improve the neighbor experience."

The client choice model incorporates the ability for neighbors to choose their food. From offering a select number of options to a full-scale grocery store experience, there is a way for partners of any size to utilize a choice model.

Key Benefits:

- Offers our neighbors dignity to choose their food preferences.
- Less food is wasted-neighbors don't receive things they won't eat.
- Volunteers can spend more time interacting with neighbors.



Interested in seeing how choice can fit into your pantry? To get started, check out the Client Choice Toolkit and reach out to your RSM for support.

We would like to highlight your pantry's experience of offering choice to our neighbors. To be featured in next month's newsletter, please submit an email to your RSM sharing your stories of offering choice to our ND and MN neighbors.

AGENCY PARTNER SHOPPING

WHAT IS IT?

Agency partner shopping allows agency partners the opportunity to come to the Bismarck and Fargo warehouse to select available retail rescue product from the partner shopping section. Product available through partner shopping is often received through retail food rescue and is close dated or not in large enough quantities to put on the order list.

How does it work?

FARGO-Sign up is required with the Calendly link sent weekly from Stephanie Erickson. This email includes product highlights and quantities. Unfortunately, we can't guarantee product will still be available by your appointment time. Show up at your selected time and a warehouse associate will greet you at the yellow Receiving Door. If staff is not there, use the Ring doorbell system. For your safety, please do not wander the warehouse alone.

BISMARCK- RSM will send out an email with product offerings to western/central agency partners with a link to sign-up for a shopping time. Agency Shopping in Bismarck is open Tuesday & Thursday afternoons from 2:00-4:00pm and is led by GPFB volunteer agency shopping specialists.

When is it available?

FARGO- Shopping hours are Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-11:00am & 1:00-3:00pm weekly. Contact serickson@greatplainsfoodbank.org to receive weekly reminders.

BISMARCK- Agency shopping is only open when product is available. RSM will send out an email when shopping is open. Product availability is first come first serve during shopping hours. Contact kbeck@greatplainsfoodbank.org with any questions.



Food Safety TRAINING

Great Plains Food Bank is committed to offering our agency partners the opportunity to quality food safety training. The ServSafe Food Handler instructional video can be used by agency partners to update their biennial food safety certification, refresh their food safety knowledge and train new volunteers. A new code will be available to our agency partners to access the online video, as needed.

Due to copyright laws, the video access code will not be posted on the PARC. New codes will be published in the monthly newsletter or reach out to your RSM for video code access.

ServSafe Food Handler® Guide for Food Banking Instructional Video

To activate your key:

1. Go to the [Food Bank Online Companion Instructional Video Homepage](#)
2. Enter email address in the provided field.
programs@greatplainsfoodbank.org
3. Copy and paste the Key below and select the Redeem button. Keys are case sensitive and must include all dashes
4. Your Online Companion will become available and you will be able to launch it from the Food Bank Online Companion Instructional Video Homepage.
5. The Online Companion will expire 30 days after it is initially launched.



ServSafe Food Handler® Guide for Food Banking Instructional Video Key:
7941-d087-116x-0249 (Video access expires 3-7-23)

HUNGER ON THE PLAINS

Great Plains Food Bank is excited to announce the public release of the Hunger on the Plains 2023 report! Hunger on the Plains synthesizes information collected from neighbors as well as our food pantry and meal site partners from across North Dakota and Clay County, Minnesota. We are grateful to all of our partners who participated in the study and/or hosted us as we gathered information from your clients.

We invite you to join us for community meetings in Bismarck and Fargo as we share key findings from our Hunger on the Plains 2023 report. Please reach out to Janice at jtweet@greatplainsfoodbank.org with any questions.

Bismarck

Monday, March 13

6:00-7:00 P.M.

Dream Center, 1805 Park Avenue, Bismarck

Light dinner will be served

[Register on Eventbrite](#)

Fargo

Tuesday, March 14

2:00-3:00 P.M.

United Way of Cass Clay, 4351 23rd Avenue South, Fargo

Light refreshments will be served

[Register on Eventbrite](#)



Product HIGHLIGHTS

#42123 Fairlife Salted Caramel Protein Shake;; 18/11.5oz bottles; \$2.70/case

#92358 Purchased Ground Chicken; 20/1# chubs; \$35.60/case

#62400 Pork Spare Ribs; 3-5 racks/case; \$5.40/case

#55319 Purchased Frozen Protein Boxes; 3 packages assorted meats; \$6.54/case

#26557 ND USDA Fresh Mandarin Oranges; 6/5#bags

#63785 LFPA Onions packaged 4#/bag (ND sites only)

#61113 Cheeseburger Skillet Dinner; 24/5.8oz pouches (MN sites only)


#25999 Diced Ham; 12/5oz cans (MN sites only)

#55856 Pineapple (MN sites only)

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture has recently launched a new program known as the **Local Food Purchasing Agreement (LFPA)** enabling food banks like ours to purchase locally grown/ raised/ produced food.

All food purchased with this program will be available to North Dakota sites and will be listed on the order sheets under LFPA.

LFPA product is free of charge!



Peanut Butter
will be available
to purchase
soon!

TEFAP Webinar

“Overview of USDA Resources to Support Emergency Feeding Programs”.

This webinar is intended for TEFAP State Agencies and TEFAP Recipient Agencies.

When: Wednesday, March 15, 2:30-3:30PM CST

Who: TEFAP State Agencies, TEFAP Recipient Agencies **Register to Attend**

What: *Overview of USDA Resources to Support Emergency Feeding Programs.*

Join the USDA team to hear about the current programs available to provide food and administrative funds for State agencies to support food banks and emergency feeding programs. The presentation will provide an overview of resources available to The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), including Congressionally appropriated program funds, Section 32 bonus foods, and the recent commitment from USDA to provide additional food and administrative support using the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). We will also highlight the Reach and Resiliency grant opportunity and Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA).

This webinar is intended for TEFAP state and recipient agencies and will be recorded and posted to the FNS website after the webinar for those who are unable to attend the live presentation.



programs@greatplainsfoodbank.org

Announcements

Great Plains Food Bank is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year! We are so thankful to our network of statewide agency partners. We will end hunger together!

Did you miss the February Partner Lunch and Learn? Watch the recording on the PARC [here](#).

Do you have questions about your order or missing items after delivery? Contact Inventory Manager Hope Olson at holson@greatplainsfoodbank.org or 701.476.9124

Last call to submit your 2023 Agency Agreements (& Retail Rescue agreements if your site participates). Please get your 2023 agency agreements signed and submitted ASAP to avoid suspension to your PWW account.

Goodbye Kyle- Kyle joined the GPFB team as a CDL driver over 14 years ago and is a familiar face to many of our agency partners. Kyle and his family will be moving out of state. His last day with GPFB will be March 10th. Be sure to thank him for his years of service if you get the chance to see him before he leaves. He will be missed!

If your site participates in agency enabled retail rescue, please be sure to enter your pick-up receipts on a weekly basis into your PWW account. Reach out to Stephanie with any questions serickson@greatplainsfoodbank.org

Starting April 1, 2023, North Dakota will begin regular Medicaid renewals for people whose coverage was temporarily extended due to the COVID-19 public health emergency to make sure they still qualify. This means that some Medicaid members may lose their coverage if they don't take simple steps now. Link for more info: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/human-services/medicaid/StayCoveredND>

Hello Grant! Welcome our new Food Sourcing team member for the west side of the state- Grant Nieters. Grant hopes to apply his knowledge from the retail side of food selling to his new position and grow the area going forward. Grant is located in the Bismarck office.



Statistics Refresher

Statistics are used to demonstrate the need in our service area. The data is used to substantiate the need for food assistance to those who volunteer, donate, and advocate for hunger relief programs. These statistics are also used to allocate grant funding and TEFAP entitlements.



Food Pantries:

Report monthly the total number:

- adults (ages 19-59)
- children (under 18)
- seniors (age 60+)
- households
- pounds distributed

*Whenever possible, unduplicated counts should be reported.

For quarterly mobile food distributions, report statistics under the applicable mobile statistics columns.

Agency Partners must submit statistics monthly within 45 days to PWW.

Meal Sites:

Report monthly the total number:

- adults (ages 19-59)
- children (under age 18)
- seniors (age 60+)
- total number of meals and/or snacks served

*Whenever possible, unduplicated counts should be reported.

**If meal site also has pantry and TEFAP foods are only used in the pantry; meal site does not need to record meals to the State. However, they still must report meals served to GPFB.



Agency Partners serving both ND & MN neighbors, please separate the service statistics and report the MN data under the MN columns and the ND data under the general headings.