

Partner Agency Spotlight

The Kitchen Table Program Makes Healthier Choices on Point

We all love rewards. Successful companies like Starbucks and Jet Blue understand rewards and loyalty programs aren't just a nice thing to do, it encourages actions they want their customers to take. Pantries can use similar tactics to support clients who want to make better choices at the pantry and with their wallets.

At the San Antonio Food Bank, their new program, The Kitchen Table, does just that. Their client choice point system gives points to pantry clients participating in free enrichment activities such as Zumba, nutrition education and financial literacy classes. Participants can choose to spend their points at the pantry to get additional food, or select food with higher point values.

Emilia Kirtner, The Kitchen Table Manager at the San Antonio Food Bank said she is encouraged by the program's success. "Clients always end up coming back to the classes, even if they initially just started for the points," Kirtner said.

Ideas you can try at your pantry:

- Develop a client choice pantry with point-based rewards that would encourage healthier choices.
- Collaborate with volunteers, clients and other community members to provide free enrichment classes for your clients.
- Survey clients to learn what types of enrichment classes they would be interested in participating in and what the barriers to participation may be.

Latest News & Reminders

ReThink Hunger Discussions

[Join us this month for a ReThink Hunger discussion](#) on how your Agency can strengthen its relationship with the Food Bank to better serve Central Texans in need. Share your ideas about an incentive program that would better equip your Agency to fight hunger. Light refreshments will be provided on site.

Latest News & Reminders (continued)

July Discussions

North: Wednesday, July 22, 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. at Caritas of Waco, 300 S.15th St., Waco, TX 76701

South/Central: Thursday, July 23, 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. at Capital Area Food Bank of Texas, 8201 South Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78745

East: Tuesday, July 28, 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. at Harker Heights Food Center, 100 E. Ruby St., Harker Heights, TX 76548

West: Thursday, July 30, 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. at Primera Baptist Church, 306 Paul C. Bell St., Bastrop, Texas 78602

For more information, email Kara Prior at kprior@austinfoodbank.org.

New Monthly Reporting Policy

We require Partner Agencies to submit a report with service totals on the first of each month. Agencies who do not file their report by the 15th of the month face a hold on ordering food. **Starting July 1, 2015, Agencies not in compliance will be subject to additional holds on service:**

- Agencies receiving three holds in a calendar year will have an automatic one- to two-week suspension depending on the Agency's ordering frequency.
- For each hold thereafter, your Agency will face a one month suspension of services.
- Excessive holds in a calendar year may result in a termination of your Agency's partnership with the Food Bank.

July 1 | Monthly Reports Due

June monthly reports are due on July 1 but are accepted until July 15. **Submit your reports at** <https://www.austinfoodbank.org/agencies/reporting>

Latest News & Reminders (continued)

Upcoming Training

July 27 | Food Handling and Civil Rights Training

Always the fourth Monday of the month.

Capital Area Food Bank of Texas

8201 S. Congress Ave. Austin, TX

1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

RSVP to agencies@austinfoodbank.org

Closures and Adjusted Pick-Up Times for Friday, July 3

We will be closed on Friday, July 3, for the Fourth of July holiday. **There will be no pick-ups, deliveries or shop-fors on this day.**

If you normally pick up or receive deliveries on this day, either order extra food the week prior, call Michelle at 512-684-2150, or email her at mwhite@austinfoodbank.org to schedule an alternate pick-up day at the Food Bank. Pick-up dates and times are subject to availability.

Regional deliveries will not be rescheduled, but agencies who usually receive deliveries may schedule a pick-up at the Food Bank as our schedule permits.

This closure will affect the ordering deadlines for agencies who wish to pick up or receive delivery on Monday, July 6, or Tuesday, July 7.

If you are ordering for pick up or delivery on:	Your order is due on:	By:
Monday, July 6	Wednesday, July 1	9:00 A.M.
Tuesday, July 7	Thursday, July 2	9:00 A.M.

Policy Review: Food Storage and Handling

The hot summer months in Central Texas are a perfect breeding ground for pests in your pantry. Each year, USDA flour, grain, and pasta products must be refrigerated during the months of May through September. We recommend refrigerating non-USDA flour, grain and pasta products as well to prevent pests (e.g., weevils) from developing in or entering these products.

Contact the Team

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