



Partner Agency Newsletter

January 2018

SPOTLIGHT: Kai Novak, ReThink Hunger VISTA

Kai is an Economic Opportunity VISTA that will be evaluating something you all are familiar with here at the Central Texas Food Bank- The ReThink Hunger system! Kai will be learning about all the services that our partner agencies provide and will be finding the best practices to expand to other partners. Kai is also part of the Client Empowerment Corps with Feeding Texas, which means she will be interviewing clients and volunteers at food pantries to learn more about their stories. This information will be used to support and inform equity efforts at the Central Texas Food Bank.

When asked what she is most excited about in her new role, Kai says, “I am looking forward to getting to know clients and getting a better understanding of their experience. I also am excited to interact with more partners and hear about the great work they are doing! I have visited only a few pantries so far, and I am always surprised by how diverse they are and yet how much they all do to support their communities.” Kai is also hoping that her work will ultimately make a positive impact among the Central Texas Food Bank’s client and partner base.



Background:

Kai graduated in spring 2017 from St. Michael’s College in Vermont with a B.A. in Environmental Studies. She wove an interest in food systems into much of her coursework, presenting about food insecurity and staging food waste awareness campaigns. Kai has worked on 3 farms, with the most recent being at Vermont’s Green Mountains last summer. Kai has never been to Texas or lived outside of the Northeast before, so moving here has been quite the adventure!

Events:

Souper Bowl of Caring

This nationwide campaign uses anticipation for the championship game to encourage people to donate food and funds to help their local community end hunger. Over the past five years, this initiative has raised more than 7.5 million meals. Help us raise millions of meals this year. The campaign kicks off January 5, 2018 at the Central Texas Food Bank and will continue through the big game on Sunday, February 4, 2018.

TEFAP Forecast:

Here is a list of items we are expecting to receive from USDA/TEFAP in January:

Green Beans
Canned peas
Cereal (Circle Oats)
Spaghetti
Fresh Apples
Rice
1% Milk

Reminders & Resources:

Food Bank Flea Market

Non-food items will be available in a “flea market” style at the Central Texas Food Bank on Saturday, February 17th from 8am-12pm on the agency loading docks. Here’s what you need to know:

- First come first serve basis
- All totes are 16 cents / lb.
- Totes cannot be broken up (must take everything in entire tote)
- Agencies can take a maximum of four totes

Contact Karsten Darden at kdarden@centraltexasfoodbank.org with any questions

Partner Agency Facebook Group

The Central Texas Food Bank has created a Facebook group for our partner agency staff, volunteers, and supporters in order to facilitate information sharing among our partners! Please use this page to share



ideas, ask questions, and exchange resources. The Food Bank will occasionally post about new/incoming product, grant opportunities, and general hunger-relief news. You can find the Facebook page [HERE](#). Once you click on the “Join Group” icon on the page, a group administrator will approve your request. *Posts including profanity, content demeaning of any person/group, or otherwise offense will be removed. Please help us ensure that this remains a positive and helpful space. If you have any questions, please email agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org

Smoked Turkey Breast Inventory

Shopping list item U50726 Smoked Turkey Breast (20-2lb pkgs per case) does not currently include a label on each individual package. Please print the label [here](#) if you have ordered this item!



Banana Boxes

All banana boxes must be returned to the Food Bank after using them to transport food items. Please inform all staff and volunteers that pick up orders and may not be aware of this policy.

Contact the Team:

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