



# MARCH PARTNER AGENCY NEWSLETTER

*February 25, 2020*

*This message is being sent to all members of the Central Texas Food Bank Partner Agency list.*



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## **Spotlight: "Other Poundage" Reporting**

Your Monthly Report asks for the “pounds of food collected this month from sources other than the Food Bank,” but what exactly does that mean?

In this total, please include any food that your organization sourced independently. Do not include food that came directly or indirectly from the Central Texas Food Bank. We calculate how much we sent to you ourselves.

<b>DO include:</b>	<b>DON'T include:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donations from the public made directly to your agency, not to the CTFB</li> <li>• Donations from retailers that are not organized through the CTFB as part of agency retail pick-up</li> <li>• Purchases by your agency</li> <li>• Produce grown in your agency's garden</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any food you received via a CTFB Program like HOPE or FFFF</li> <li>• Food picked up at agency retail pick-up partners or the Temple or Waco produce containers</li> <li>• Transfers of CTFB food from other CTFB agencies</li> </ul>

**Why does the food bank ask for non-food bank poundage?** The Food Bank combines the poundage that agencies sourced independently with the poundage given by the Food Bank to get the total poundage provided to clients each month. This total is critical for understanding how well need is being met in the agency's area of Central Texas each month and where additional assistance is needed most.

**Want to learn more?** See the complete list of what to include and not include on page 6 of the [Partner Agency Monthly Report Instructions](#), available to download in our online [Resource Center](#) under "Agency Documents." Still have questions? Just ask by emailing us at [agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org](mailto:agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org) or calling us at (512) 684-2503.

## Reminders & Resources:

### March Closures

The Food Bank will be closed on Friday, March 20. There will be no pick-ups or deliveries on this day.

<b>If you are picking up or receiving delivery on:</b>	<b>Your ordering window <u>opens</u> on:</b>	<b>At:</b>	<b>Your order is <u>due</u> on:</b>	<b>At:</b>
Monday, March 23	Tuesday, March 17	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday, March 18	9:00 a.m.
Tuesday, March 24	Wednesday, March 18	10:00 a.m.	Thursday, March 19	9:00 a.m.

For the most up to date closure information, please refer to the [2020 Holiday Guide](#) and the agencies page of our website. Ordering guidelines for closures will be posted and sent out 30 days prior to these dates so you can plan for your pantry needs.

### **Important Form Update: TEFAP Participant Rights & Responsibilities**

Please note, as of November 2019 there has been an update to the Participant Rights & Responsibilities Form that requires action by your agency in order to remain compliant.

Effective immediately, please discard all old copies of the Participant Rights & Responsibilities Form and update them with the new version.

[Here](#) and on the [Agency Resource Center](#) page of the Central Texas Food Bank website, you can find a printable copy of this form available for download in English and Spanish.

This document informs clients of their rights as a participant in The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). You are not required to give each applicant or participant a copy of the form. However, you must make the form available to any new clients at the time of their application and to participants during re-certification. You must either read it to them or have the client read it themselves.

It is CTFB's recommendation that you keep a copy of this form at your intake table(s) and have additional copies available should a client request one to take with them.

If you have any questions about this important compliance update, please contact your Agency Relations Team representative or call the Agency hotline at (512) 684-2503.

### **Healthy Pantry Initiative**



The Healthy Pantry Team is working to expand our network of Certified Healthy Pantries and we want you to join us! Similar to HGTV designers, we bring our partners' vision to life, transforming their food pantries into health food meccas. The purpose of the Healthy Pantry Initiative (HPI) is to expand the capacity of motivated, health-focused partners so that they can distribute larger amounts of produce and other foods to encourage by giving your clients the knowledge and tools they need to select, prepare, and enjoy healthful foods.

Our staff will support you in the implementation of the strategies you select, as well as assisting you in gaining valuable feedback from your clients on their current eating habits! The only thing we need from you in order to participate is a strong commitment to valuing the health and wellness of the people we serve.

To learn more about how you can join this transformative group that will shape the future of our network, please contact us at [agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org](mailto:agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org).

**We believe interest will be high, so please reach out soon to secure your spot!**

## Census Information



Census outreach efforts are kicking off this month nationwide, and the Central Texas Food Bank will be actively participating in initiatives targeting the “Hard to Count” (HTC) populations across our service territory.

Census data plays a critical role in the allocation of federal resources, apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and attraction of business investment. It is estimated that even a one percent undercount in Texas would result in the loss of \$300 million in federal funding for programs like Medicaid and Medicare, CHIP,

WIC, and the National School Lunch Program.

Households will begin receiving their Census surveys in March, and our network of partner agencies will play a critical role in encouraging clients to participate in this once every decade count.

Approximately 25% of Texans live in “HTC” neighborhoods. They include children under the age of five, immigrants, homeless individuals, those living in rural communities, college students and the disabled. The CTFB has identified numerous locations across our service territory with significant HTC populations. **We will be launching an initiative over the next several months to get out the word that the Census is important, easy and safe. If you're interested in helping ensure that every Central Texan is counted in the 2020 Census reach out via email to [agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org](mailto:agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org).**

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## Recipe of the Month: Chickpea Avocado Cucumber Salad

For this month's [recipe](#), we are featuring cucumbers. Cucumbers not only help you stay full, but also help you stay hydrated since they are made of about 96% water.

Cucumbers are low in calories, but very rich in vitamins and minerals. They are a great source of Vitamin C, K, magnesium, and potassium. In order to get the most of the nutrients, you should eat them unpeeled as the skin contains most of the fiber.

Cucumbers are usually eaten raw and are an easy addition to many dishes. Try chopping into small pieces with lime or hummus, or adding it to a salad. You can also add cucumbers to your water for a flavorful and refreshing drink. When buying cucumbers, choose the ones that have dark green colored skin and are very firm. Store the cucumbers in the refrigerators by placing them in plastic bags to help them retain moisture.



In our featured [recipe](#), cucumbers are part of a sweet, refreshing salad with chickpeas for added protein, parsley and a honey lemon dressing.

Want to learn about other fruits and veggies? Come learn the basics of organic gardening in this [two-part series](#) offered in our on-site garden. [Join us](#) to harvest fresh, seasonal produce in our on-site garden, and learn two quick and easy ways to prepare the food at home.

To learn more about our free nutrition education classes, and to find more recipes such as this one, click [here](#).

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### Food Sourcing Forecast:

Below, you will find a list of foods that will be available on the shopping list soon. On the hyperlinked items you will find easy recipes that can be shared with your clients. To find more recipes, visit our [website](#)!

[Meat and Dairy](#)

[Produce](#)

[Shelf Stable Food Items](#)

1% Milk	<a href="#">Apples</a>	Beef Chili Without Beans
Eggs	<a href="#">Oranges</a>	<a href="#">Black Beans (Can)</a>
Cheese	<a href="#">Pears</a>	Peas (Can)
Chicken Fillets		Pears (Can)
Pork Chops		<a href="#">Rolled Oats</a>
Pork Taco Filling		Spinach (Can)
Smoked Turkey Breast		Tomato Sauce (Can)
		Vegetable Soup

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## Contact The Team:

### By phone:

(512) 684 - 2503

### By email:

[agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org](mailto:agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org)

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To share your Agency's local news stories, please email us at [communications@centraltexasfoodbank.org](mailto:communications@centraltexasfoodbank.org).

Partner Agency staff and volunteers are encouraged to sign up to receive newsletters and updates. To be added to our mailing list email [agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org](mailto:agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org).

Partner Agency newsletters are intended to provide our network with a snapshot of issues relevant to our work and mission.

*"To nourish hungry people and lead the community in the fight against hunger."*

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