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Partner Agency Newsletter - November 2021

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Agency News



Spotlight: Meet our Food Sourcing Specialist, Maddie Cordovano!



CTFB invites you all to join us in welcoming this dynamic team player, Maddie Cordovano. Maddie was born on Earth Day in a mountain ski town! She has been active in the non-profit community for quite some time and is working to reduce our environmental footprint on the planet while helping those in need. Her dedication to reducing plastic and food waste, while helping others, led her to the food sourcing team at The Central Texas Food Bank six months ago. Maddie dedicates a majority of her efforts to the Agency Retail Pickup Program. The Agency Retail Pickup program consists of about 82 agency partners who are paired with retailer donors to pick up donated product. The food sourcing's team role is to help the agency navigate their relationship with their assigned retailer. One of the greatest accomplishments for the CTFB Food Sourcing team in Fiscal Year 2021 was diverting 119,832 pounds of rescued food to CTFB Partner Agencies within 4 days of the annual warehouse inventory closure. One of Maddie's main goals for Fiscal Year 2022 is to grow the number of Agency Retail Pickup members and donor stores. She also hopes to focus on sourcing more culturally diverse foods. Interacting with donors and partners has been Maddie's favorite part of being the Food Sourcing Specialist. Some of her other favorite things include figs, her favorite fruit, and beets, her favorite vegetable. If Maddie could have one meal with anyone famous, she would indulge in a yummy bowl of pasta with Robin Williams. Thank you Maddie for all your hard work, dedication, and ever-growing passion to serve others. We could not work towards our mission to nourish hungry people and lead the community in the fight against hunger, without you!

Special Announcement

A blue banner with white clouds. The text reads: "Health insurance. Simplified. Let us simplify your Marketplace insurance enrollment, for free." On the left is a yellow circular seal that says "Open Enrollment: Nov 1 to Jan 15". In the center, it says "To schedule your 'Get Ready' phone appointment, call or visit us at:" followed by a website icon and "ProsperHealthCoverage.org" and a phone icon and "512-381-4520". On the right is the "FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES" logo, which features a stylized sunburst above the text.

Health insurance. Simplified.
Let us simplify your Marketplace insurance enrollment, *for free.*

Open Enrollment: Nov 1 to Jan 15

To schedule your "Get Ready" phone appointment, call or visit us at:

ProsperHealthCoverage.org 512-381-4520

FOUNDATION COMMUNITIES

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Enrolling in health insurance can be complicated, but CTFB Partner Agency Foundation Communities is here to simplify the process! Open Enrollment starts Nov 1 and runs until Jan 15, 2022.

Monday through Saturday during Open Enrollment, Foundation Communities simplifies health insurance enrollment in Marketplace insurance plans, for free. Please help spread the word by referring clients or community organizations to our services. English and Spanish outreach materials including flyers, posters, email banners, and social media posts can be found [here](#).

Three easy steps are all it takes to get enrolled:

1. Complete the initial "Get Ready" form or phone appointment. This can be done [online](#) or over the phone. To complete the form over the phone, clients can call 512-381-4520 or visit ProsperHealthCoverage.org to schedule a phone appointment.
2. Schedule an Enrollment Appointment. After completing the initial "Get Ready" form, clients will receive a link and phone number to schedule their enrollment appointment, which can be in-person at one of our two locations or online.
3. Upon completion of the enrollment appointment, clients will be enrolled in affordable health insurance! Foundation Communities can help them navigate healthcare all year.

If you'd like to request a staff training or additional information, please contact Clisha D'Souza at clisha.dsouza@foundcom.org.

Resources



Recipe of the Month: Pasta Salad with Eggplant, Tomatoes and Basil



Snack? Dessert? Breakfast? Our Carrot Cake Oatmeal is so good, who carrots! We turned a great vegetable, carrots, into a delicious warm breakfast, snack, or dessert. With just two minutes in the microwave, the combination of hot whole grain oats with soft, warm carrots, mixed with warm spices, and topped with crushed walnuts for extra protein and crunch make this bowl the perfect fall treat. Top the oatmeal with raisins, pineapple, unsweetened coconut flakes, low-fat cream cheese, or honey to create a different bowl every time.

For this month's recipe [Carrot Cake Oatmeal](#), we are featuring carrots. Carrots are sure to add a bright color to all your favorite fall-inspired dishes. Carrots go well with herbs and spices like parsley, cinnamon, clove, allspice, mint, nutmeg, ginger, dill, and thyme. Try raw carrots on their own or in salads, appetizers, or

desserts. Cooked carrots create an excellent vegetable side dish or can be added to soups.

Beta-carotene gives orange foods their particular color. It aids in converting vitamin A into the body and helps improve vision. Beta-carotene is also an antioxidant that can help reduce the risk of certain cancers. When storing carrots, remove the tops. The green top can be used for salads or as an herb on other meals. Peeling is optional as long as you wash and scrub the carrot before preparing them for a recipe. Cleaned carrots should be wrapped in damp paper towels and placed in the coolest part of your refrigerator. Storing fresh carrots this way can extend shelf life to a month.

[Click here for more recipes.](#)

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 & Dairy	Shelf Stable
1% Milk	Green Beans
2% Milk	Black Beans
Eggs	Pinto Beans
American Cheese Blend	Pink Salmon
Swiss Cheese Slices	Sliced Peaches
Mozzarella String Cheese	#2 Long Grain Rice
Pork Loin Roast	Peanut Butter
Split Chicken Breast	Pasta
Fine Ground Beef	Macaroni & Cheese
	Instant Milk
	Canned Beef
	Purple Plums
	Peas
	Cranberry-Apple Juice
	Roasted Pistachios
	Dried Cherries

	Cereal
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Important Reminders

Upcoming Closures

IMPORTANT REMINDER– The food bank will be closed on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 in observance of Thanksgiving!

This means all regularly scheduled pick-ups and deliveries are cancelled during this time. Below are the modifications being made to the ordering schedule as a result of this closure:

If you are picking up or receiving delivery on:	Your ordering window opens on:	At:	Your order is due on:	At:
Mon., Nov. 29	Mon., Nov. 22	10:00 a.m.	Tues., Nov. 23	9:00 a.m.
Tues., Nov. 30	Tues., Nov. 23	10:00 a.m.	Wed., Nov. 24	9:00 a.m.

If your organization will be in need of a rescheduled pick-up during this closure, please reach out to your relationship manager to see what may be possible. Reschedule spots will be limited and are available first-come, first-served.

For the most up-to-date closure information, please refer to the 2021 Holiday Guide and the agencies page of our website. CTFB will post and send out closure ordering guidelines 30 days prior so you can plan for your pantry needs.

[Click here to download the 2021 Holiday Guide.](#)

[Click here to visit the Agencies page.](#)

Special Holiday Request

The Central Texas Food Bank would like to ask for your help this holiday season! Do you know of an event coming up in your area that will serve holiday meals? CTFB requests that agencies share any information regarding free holiday meal events happening in your area by filling out this [survey](#). CTFB will document all submitted events and share them with the community. Thank you all in advance for taking the time to submit any information you have. We look forward to collaborating with you all in making sure that members of our community have a meal to celebrate with this holiday season.

Agency Ordering FAQ's

Are you training someone new to place your orders? Need to troubleshoot an ordering issue or be reminded about a certain ordering procedure? Check out our updated Agency Ordering FAQ sheet linked [here](#) that contains commonly asked questions from partners.

Contact the Team

512.684.2503 | agencies@centraltexasfoodbank.org

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