

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2009

Debi Kreuntzman has prepped for her new position as our Coordinator of Agency Relations in each of her career steps beyond her business studies at Emporia State. These steps included office manager positions for a general practice physician, a Workman's Compensation clinic and a community Hospice.

Then she brought an impressive set of administrative skills and her deep compassion for helping people to the nonprofit world of Positive Directions, a haven for terminally ill HIV victims. And for the next nine years she served as that organization's "Daily Bread Coordinator," a position responsible for arranging hunger-relief for food-insecure out-patients. Eventually her job led into establishing a Positive Directions food pantry and a close connection with the Kansas Food Bank.

She has now changed her role from receiving food for emergency hunger relief to being an important part of the process for dispensing it. Debi is responsible for qualifying those who seek to become a part of the network of independent agencies receiving supplies from Kansas Food Bank.

This is a detailed process that requires strict documentation and field investigation. Those who are cleared to be network participants receive a thorough orientation with the rules, procedures and guidelines of the Food Bank. As members, they are subject to a field-monitoring review process every two years to be sure of their continued compliance.

Debi understands very well the need to nourish a spirit of partnership between the Food Bank and those it serves. And she is determined to reach and maintain the highest standards of efficiency and integrity in the distribution of HungerCare. She believes that is the least we can do out of respect for those who generously support the KFB mission. As we all do.

—Brian Walker President/CEO

KFB GETS GENEROUS GRAINGER GRANT... Your Kansas Food recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Grainger Foundation based upon the recommendation of its local Grainger Branch Manager Rick Weidman "The Food Bank plays a critical role in ensuring the health and vitality of our local community," he said, "and we are pleased to support them in their mission—especially during these difficult economic times "

Grainger is a local distributor of facilities maintenance supplies to Wichita businesses and has been a part of the local business community for more than 50 years. Even though the Foundation that bears the Grainger name is less likely to be well known to Wichitans, it is clearly a force for good in communities around the nation which it helps. And the Food Bank will long remember this timely and very helpful gift.



Brian Walker accepted a \$10,000 donation from Rick Weidman of Grainger Industrial Supply Division.

CARGILL COMES THROUGH...AGAIN! Proof that Cargill seems always to be there when we need them most can be seen all around the Food Bank. From the name on the exterior identifying our Headquarters facility as the "Cargill Cares Complex" to the employee badges worn by Cargill employees as they busily work at a variety of volunteer tasks, to the truckloads of Cargill Food contributions, the presence of Cargill is felt all through the year.

Now comes the latest Cargill Gift, a generous donation of \$270,000 in cash and food presented by John Keating, president of Cargill Beef. "In light of Cargill's mission to nourish people," he said, "we are making this donation to help address immediate shortfalls of food for families in need." These encouraging words and the generous gift could not have come at a better time. Thanks again to our kind and thoughtful friends at Cargill.

GIRL OF THE MONTH... Second Helpings loves to share stories about wonderful young people doing wonderful things for their community. Vanessa Lowden of Independence is the subject of such a story. And for her tender age, she is already a very wise thinker. On her application letter, for an award from Soroptimist International (for girls 14 to 17) she wrote, "Changing the whole world into a better place is not something one person can do alone, but I believe if we all chip in to volunteer, then it's entirely possible."

Vanessa won the honor and a cash prize of \$150 as well as an additional \$150 for her designated charity. She chose the Food Bank. And we could not be more deeply honored or appreciative. You Go Girl!

LATE NEWS BREAK...the 2009 Wichita Letter Carriers Annual Food Drive ended on Saturday afternoon with more than 155,000 pounds and donated it all to us! See scenes from the big harvest on the back of this page.

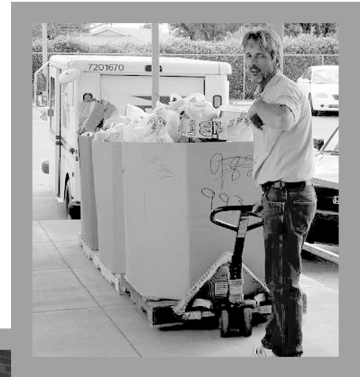
KANSAS food bank
HELPING THE HUNGRY • SINCE 1984
A Member of FEEDING AMERICA

MAY 12, 2009, EDITION #46
If you're new, we welcome you!
1919 E. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67211 - Tel: 316 • 265 • 4421
Fax: 316 • 265 • 9747 - E-mail: foodbankinfo@kansasfoodbank.org
Website: kansasfoodbank.org

NALC LOCAL #201 BRINGS IN BUMPER HARVEST



The Campbell's Kids and postal workers participate in the River Festival Sundowner's Parade.



Cathy Lamb, Chairperson, NALC local 201 and Brian Walker.



Jerry Pelz of Vitran Express.



Darryl Knauff and David Goodsell of Dugan Transportation, Herb Shurley of Land Air Express, and Jerry Pelz of Vitran Express.



Randy Pulley and Dan Batliner of Land Air Express.



Herb Shurley (Land Air Express) and David Goodsell (Dugan Transportation).



David Tucker of UPS Express.

OUR THANKS TO THESE VOLUNTEERS:

- Cathy Lamb, Chairperson, NALC local 201
 - Mario Cervantes, United Way, recruited 40 volunteers for the drive.
 - Dan Batliner, LandAir Express, coordinated trucks & volunteer drivers to pick up food at six US Post Office stations and deliver to the Food Bank:
 - Three trucks and drivers were furnished by LandAir Express
 - One driver, one truck by UPS Freight
 - One driver, one truck by Dugan Truck Line
 - One driver, one truck by Viatran
- Former KFB employee Brandon Charlsen also served as a volunteer.



**GOOD JOB
WELL DONE
THANKS TO
EVERYONE!**

This is how our Food 4 Kids Backpack program helped our Kansas kids this month.



Kids are always excited to see what's new in their packets. They have favorites they never get to eat at home that we provide. It's nutritious and they love it.

—Altamont School District, Altamont



The kids were excited to get the Stone Soup book with their food. Their faces lit up and the teachers commented on how awesome it was the kids got their own books. What a cool idea.

—Linwood Elementary, Wichita



The kids come every week and have big smiles when they get the backpacks. One of the boys told me how much the food helped them and how grateful he was to get it.

—Roosevelt Elementary
Arkansas City



Another student whose parent is laid off reported that the extra food really helps out during the weekend. He said that they usually were almost out of food, especially for breakfast by the weekend.

—Fort Scott Middle School
Fort Scott



Over Spring Break I had a new student added. You could see the relief he felt knowing that there would be something to help over the long break. Thank you for this program. It is greatly appreciated in the eyes of all of our children. We truly appreciate this service for the families attending our school.

—Caldwell Elementary, Wichita



Our students were thrilled with the tooth brushes they received in their backpacks. What a great present for them.

—McKinley Intermediate, Abilene



We had one family who lost everything in a fire so the food backpacks will definitely help them this weekend. Luckily, they were able to save their Backpack and we were washed it for them so they can continue using it.

—Bluestem Elementary, Leon



Thanks from the bottom of my heart! I truly believe this program make a difference in the lives of children.

—Erie Elementary, Erie, Kansas



A parent of a new kindergarten child receiving food backpacks said to tell you thanks for this service. She said the family is having a hard time making ends meet. Their son is on free lunches and eats breakfast and lunch here at school. The weekend packet helps him meet his nutritional needs on Saturday and Sunday.

—Kennedy Primary, Abilene



One of our teachers came up to me and expressed how wonderful the Food 4 Kids program has been for her students. She said the kids really look forward to receiving their backpacks on Friday and it has really made a difference in their classroom work. Thank you again for supporting our Levy students!

—Levy Special Education Center
Wichita



When I explained to a single mom with 6 children that we could help her with weekend food, she was so grateful. We have two of her children in our school and both boys are so excited to get their weekend food each Friday. I have never seen kids so excited about food. What a gift to be able to provide for these boys and relieve some pressure off of their mom who is working so hard to raise her children.

—Walnut Elementary, Emporia

