

**Fighting Hunger in 13 North Texas Counties**

**TARRANT AREA FOOD BANK is the primary source of donated food for 300 hunger-relief charities and feeding programs in 13 North Central Texas counties.**

**MISSION** To eliminate hunger in Fort Worth and 13 neighboring counties by providing food, education and other resources to a network of hunger-relief charities. (Founded in 1981; doors opened in 1982.)

**NEED** People seeking food assistance include low-wage workers and their families, senior citizens living on fixed incomes, victims of family violence and of disasters, the chronically ill, the severely disabled, the homeless, under-employed and the temporarily unemployed.

**One third of those served by Tarrant Area Food Bank and its network are children.**

**SERVICES** **Tarrant Area Food Bank rescues** edible surplus fresh, frozen and nonperishable food from becoming waste by accepting millions of pounds of it each year from the food industry.

**We provide food to** church food pantries, senior citizen centers, emergency shelters for abuse victims and homeless families, soup kitchens, low-income child care centers, after-school programs, Kids Cafes, BackPacks for Kids, rehabilitation facilities and other social service centers.

**Counties served:** Tarrant, Bosque, Cooke, Denton, Erath, Hamilton, Hill, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell and Wise.

**To complement our distribution of food:**

**Kids Cafes** serve late afternoon meals to impoverished children, and **BackPacks for Kids** provides nonperishable, kid-friendly food for school-aged children at risk of hunger on weekends.

**Nutrition education**, through various curricula, emphasizes the link between healthy food choices and good health. In collaboration with Share Our Strength, Operation Frontline teaches individuals and families how to get the best nutrition possible on a limited budget.

**Free job training in the culinary arts** in our Community Kitchen prepares low-income adults for entry-level jobs in the food service industry while they produce meals for food-aid agencies.

**RESULTS** **Every month**, partner charities distribute groceries to more than 40,000 families and serve 575,000 prepared meals and snacks on their own sites to individuals and families who may or may not receive groceries.

**Children** eating in **Kids Cafes** or participating in our **BackPacks for Kids** weekend feeding program have more energy and earn better grades according to teachers and parents.

**Community Kitchen graduates** find employment with advancement opportunities at local country clubs, restaurants, hospitals, hotels, bakeries and other food service companies.

**EFFICIENCY** A **\$1.00 donation** helps us provide enough donated food for 4 meals.

**Volunteers** provided 55,000 hours of work at the Food Bank in calendar year 2009, thereby saving Tarrant Area Food Bank hundreds of thousands of dollars.

As a member of Feeding America, the national food bank network, Tarrant Area Food Bank is in full compliance with Feeding America standards of operation and performance.

Tarrant Area Food Bank is operated in accordance with U.S. Department of Agriculture Policy, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion or political belief.