

# Nourishing News

April 2016

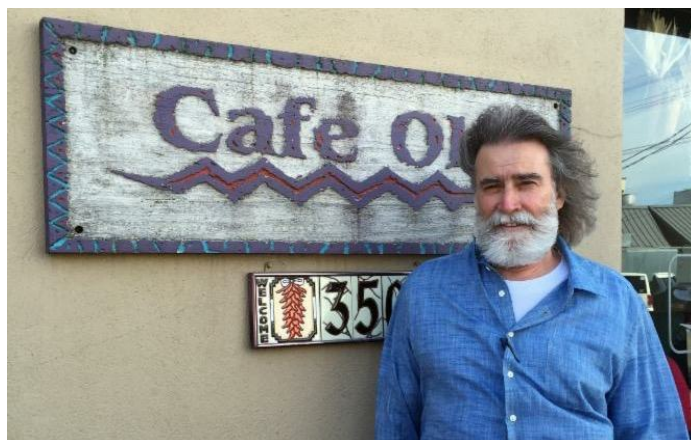
Welcome to Nourishing News, the new monthly e-newsletter from the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. From food drives and volunteering, to events and everything in between, members of our community have shown their generosity countless times and in very original ways. At the Food Bank, we are grateful for the efforts of those in our community, and we welcome the creativity and compassion of those who help us in our quest to alleviate hunger.

[Click to Donate](#)

## Spring Break Feeding

While most children count down the days to vacation, students who live in low-income households anxiously count the numbers of meals they'll miss when they can't get access to free meals at school. To make sure the only issue underserved children have to worry about is how they'll spend their time off, the Food Bank's Mobile Eatery uses innovative ways to bring meals to children in need.

[Click here to read this story.](#)



## Café Ole Supports Food for Kids

April 20, 2016

Many restaurants support our Food for Kids program during Restaurant Week. Our September event features prix-fixe menus with a 10% donation of sales to the Food Bank. Most restaurant owners participate because it gives diners an incentive to try out a new restaurant and generate new business, but Don with Café Ole wanted to do more.

[Read more about Don and Café Ole.](#)

## Empty Bowls

April 26, 2016

### Cox Business Center

Please join us in the Food Bank's 35th year of fighting hunger, by participating in Empty Bowls 2016. Our goal for the evening is to raise 2 million meals along with awareness, to help fight hunger in our community. Empty Bowls is presented by the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation and planned by Co-Chairs Jason Glass and Brian Hughes, along with Honorary Chairs Elliot and Meg Nelson.



[Click here for more information about Empty Bowls.](#)



### SNAP Chat

Ashley and Darla are two people for whom SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) has provided opportunities to lift themselves out of shattering situations. These circumstances are not necessarily unique to them. We hear similar stories quite frequently. Many of us can relate to being one paycheck away from needing help.

[Click here to read the rest of Ashley and Darla's story.](#)

### Many Ways for Volunteers to Help

The Village Project is one of the Food Bank's, monthly volunteer groups. Additionally, they participate at Food Bank special events, such as the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. According to Akela Leach, executive director, "The Village Project brings people together through local community service projects."



[Click here to read this story.](#)

### Thanks to KOTV

Recently, the staff at KOTV News on 6 packed cases, onsite at their studio, for the Food for Kids Backpack Program. Griffin Communications has championed the Food for Kids programs in many ways over the years. Kim Petersen, marketing services coordinator, sent Cathy Elliott, our children's program manager, a note of thanks and a time lapse video of the event.



[Click here to view the video.](#)

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## Advocacy in Action and You

Recently the State House proposed a bill which would have eliminated health coverage from parents of dependent children making about \$8,000 or less annually. This bill would have imposed serious financial hardship on approximately 110,000 of some of Oklahoma's poorest families.



However, many Oklahomans reached out to their representatives to voice disapproval. Through their advocacy, they stopped the bill. Thank you to those who lent their voices, and thanks to the legislators who listened!

[Click here to visit the advocacy page of our website.](#)

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## Upcoming Dates:

### Family Night, Tuesday April 5 and Tuesday, May 3

A family activity sorting donated food items. Volunteers as young as eight years of age are welcome when accompanied by an adult. RSVP to Kate at [kpelizsoni@okfoodbank.org](mailto:kpelizsoni@okfoodbank.org) or 918-936-4512.

### Food For Thought Luncheon, Wednesday, April 13

Informal gatherings and luncheon with our executive director, Eileen Bradshaw on the second Wednesday of each month from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. There is no cost to attend. RSVP to Heather Palacios at [hpalacios@okfoodbank.org](mailto:hpalacios@okfoodbank.org) or 918-936-4551.

### Walmart's Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign, March 28 - April 25

Provide meals for families who struggle with hunger by purchasing participating products, making register donations and showing your support online. For more information go to [Walmart.com/FightHunger](http://Walmart.com/FightHunger).

### Stamp Out Hunger, Saturday, May 14

The Food Bank's largest food drive of the year. Donations can be dropped off at Reasor's locations from April 27 - May 16. Donations may also be given at the register. To help with this event contact Adam Baker at [abaker@okfoodbank.org](mailto:abaker@okfoodbank.org) or 918-936-4545.

For more information about ongoing Food Bank events and who to contact to learn more about your partnership with the Food Bank [click here.](#)



Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma | 918-585-2800 | okfoodbank.org

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