



State College Area Food Bank News

276 West Hamilton Avenue, State College, PA 16801 • (814) 234-2310

Fall/Winter 2011

<http://foodbank.centreconnect.org>

Volume eighteen Issue 2

Executive Update

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year.” Many of us would agree with this sentiment from the popular holiday song—and thanks to the generosity of our community, our clients and their families will indeed enjoy the wonderful holiday foods we all look forward to.

We are making a difference—through food drives, donations, fund raisers, and many volunteer hours. In the weeks before Thanksgiving, we distributed more than 320 frozen turkeys and bags of groceries that included holiday favorites such as cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, and canned sweet potatoes. The Scouting for Food drive in November was another success, as was the Toys for Tots kickoff. This holiday season, we are thankful for each and every one of you who help us fulfill our mission: to provide food to those in need in the State College area and to support the network of food pantries in Centre County.

The holidays are also a time for reflecting on the past year and ushering in a new one. Next year, we at the Food Bank will say good-bye to our executive director, Linda Tataliba. Linda will resign from her position this spring to pursue other educational and professional opportunities while she enjoys being closer to her children. “My decision does not come lightly, and

it is definitely bittersweet,” Linda says. “It will be with heartfelt emotions that I leave behind my kind and caring family at the Food Bank and in this community to begin my new ventures. I miss you all already!”

“Most importantly, I want to say thank you ever so much for giving me the opportunity to be your colleague, your friend, and a part of our phenomenal community safety net. I can honestly and wholeheartedly say that this has been the best professional work experience in my life.”

Linda steps down as executive director after almost six years of dedicated service. “Linda has done a wonderful job,” says Tom Charles, president of the Food Bank board of directors. “Her focus has always been on improving how we reach and assist those in need. She has broadened and deepened our relationships in the community, and she has been a tireless advocate for those who lack food security.”

Our search for a new executive director is under way, and we hope to have the position filled before Linda leaves us in the spring.

And along with changes for the new year, we also welcome our new board members: Susan Bardo, Steve Bauer, Karen Kuebler, Shuchi Nalepa, Louwana Oliva, Maureen Riedel, and Curt Sayers. We look forward to working with you to serve our community.

May your holidays be a time of wonder, joy, and gratitude! ■



Linda Tataliba, Food Bank executive director and Tom Charles, president. Linda will be resigning from her position this spring to pursue other career goals.

Call to Volunteer!

(814) 234-2310

Did You Know

We want to stay in touch! If any of your contact information has changed, including a new email address, please let us know. Fill out the form below and send it to the State College Area Food Bank at 276 West Hamilton Avenue, State College, PA 16801 or email your contact information to donors@scfoodbank.org. ■



Food Bank Donor Contact Form

Purpose of Form: ☐ Add contact information ☐ Change contact information

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Address 2: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____

Phone: () - _____

☐ Do not solicit

Describe Yourself (check only one):

☐ Individual ☐ United Way

☐ Congregation

☐ Other

If other, specify _____

☐ Corporate

☐ Organization

Additional Comments or Notes:

Donation: ☐ Cash/check ☐ Gift card Amount: \$ _____

or

☐ Food

☐ Other

If food or other, describe: _____

How to Give By Linda Tataliba

We appreciate donations of all kinds. Grocery gift cards in any amount are especially welcome. We use gift cards to maintain our food inventory and supplement what we don't receive in food donations. Using gift cards also supports our local grocery stores and jobs here in Centre County. And the best part is, gift cards hardly take up any space!

Other current Food Bank needs include canned beets, carrots, and potatoes; canned meat (tuna, chicken, etc.); canned tomato products; canned mandarin oranges and fruit cocktail; muffin mixes; granulated sugar; mayonnaise and Miracle Whip; salad dressings; cooking oil; coffee and black tea; laundry detergent; personal hygiene items (toothpaste, bar soap,

shampoo, etc.), and baby items (baby food, diapers, formula, etc.). ■

Board of Trustees & Staff

Board Officers

Tom Charles, President

Kat Snowe, Recording Secretary

Alicia Wetmiller,
Corresponding Secretary

Shuchi Nalepa

Louwana Oliva

Heather Pleskonko

Maureen Riedel

Curt Sayers

Kit Stanton

Members of the Board

Susan Bardo

Steve Bauer

Karen Kuebler

Kristi Mattzela

Staff

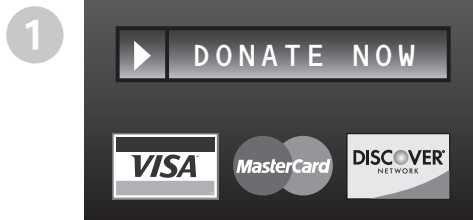
Linda Tataliba, Executive Director

Ernest Boyd, Operations Manager

Barbara Dreese, Treasurer

Three Ways to Connect!

Donate online – it's quick, easy, and secure! Just go to <http://foodbank.centreconnect.org/>, click on the "Donate Now" image, and enter your credit card information. It's that easy!



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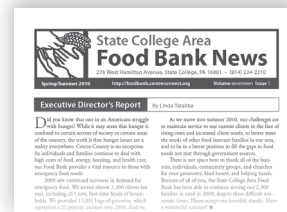


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Just search for *State College Area Food Bank*.

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If you'd like to receive your newsletter electronically, email us at donors@scfoodbank.org.



Helping Neighbors

When it comes to helping our neighbors, we couldn't do it without the hard work and dedication of two indispensable staff members: operations manager Ernest Boyd and treasurer Barb Dreese.

During his ten years at the Food Bank, Ernest has kept things running smoothly by scheduling volunteers and ordering food for distribution. With the expansion of the Feeding America programs to include regular pick-ups at Olive Garden, Red Lobster, Chipotle, Wal-Mart, and Sam's Club, "we are ever busier and busier," says Ernest. "It is only possible to accomplish it all with our great core of regular, year-in-year-out volunteers and our dedicated volunteers from Penn State, State High, and many other community groups." Ernest has always enjoyed cooking for his own family as well as feeding

others. "It brings me sincere joy to help people get the food they need," he says.

The Food Bank's board of directors appreciates Ernest's many contributions through much growth and change in recent years. "Ernest keeps everyone smiling with his own unique sense of humor," says board president Tom Charles. "He has spent countless hours and miles collecting food and moving it around, and we thank him for his ongoing commitment."

Our treasurer, Barb Dreese, is another much-valued staff member. Barb began working at the Food Bank as a volunteer in 1985, and in 1995 she was hired as a staff member. As treasurer, she's responsible for paying bills, submitting tax forms, payroll, and dealing with lots of forms. She also keeps the donor database up to date.

"Barb is a dedicated, long-time staff member who does the very important job of keeping a close eye on the money," says Charles. "She is concerned about the welfare of our organization and our clients, and we are grateful to her for all the work she does." ■

A Member Centre County Agency of: United Way

The Centre County United Way, through its partner agencies, provides services to one in three people in Centre County. We are proud to be one of those partner agencies, and we thank the United Way for their financial support. Without the United Way's support, we wouldn't be able to serve our clients nearly at the level we do. Thank you, Centre County United Way!



Thank You

Each year, the Scouting for Food drive brings in tons of donations to food banks throughout the country, and the timing couldn't be better. November is always our busiest month for serving clients, and Scouting for Food brings in the extra food and holiday items for our Thanksgiving bags that we distribute throughout the month.



Girl Scouts®

Once again this year, Boy and Girl Scout troops, along with volunteers from Penn State and the local community, worked together to gather, unload, organize, box up, and deliver 20,000 pounds of food. Thanks to everyone who made the 2011 Scouting for Food drive a success! Your contributions of food and volunteer time help ensure that our neighbors who need food or a holiday meal can find help at Centre County food banks.



Volunteers work to unload boxes of food during the Scouting for Food drive.

Call to Volunteer!

(814) 234-2310

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The State College Area Food Bank
P.O. Box 907
State College, PA 16804
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