Happy Holidays from Harvesters’ President & CEO

2019 has been a wonderful year, and we are grateful for all you do to feed hungry children, families and seniors.

In the last fiscal year, Harvesters' network distributed more than 53 million pounds of food, providing 48,040,738 meals in our service area. One third of the total food distributed was fresh produce. Some new initiatives included the following:

• A mobile Produce Van that delivered more fresh produce directly to Johnson County, Kansas, so agencies could get more produce with traveling as far as to pick it up.
• Increased deliveries for the Produce Bus in Topeka. The bus visited more senior centers, reaching more than 250 additional seniors each month.

Our network grew over the last year, with the addition of 49 new agencies. They are all located in areas of immediate need or are reaching a specific at-risk population.

In partnership with 176 agencies, we operated 240 mobile pantry units throughout our service area. Our BackSnack partners fed 19,000 children every week. And, other agency partners provided another 762,000 meals for children through the Kids Cafe program and mobile and onsite pantries at schools.

It takes all of us working together to make this happen and bring food and hope to so many in our service areas.

We wish you the very best this holiday season and look forward to making even more of an impact with you in 2020.

Valerie Nicholson-Watson
Harvesters’ President and CEO

Holiday Closings

Please note Harvesters will be closed on the following days due to the upcoming holidays:

• Monday, November 25
• Tuesday, December 24
• Wednesday, December 25
• Wednesday, January 1

Holiday Meats

Thank you to all our agencies that participated in the Holiday Meat program this year! As we said during our regional meetings, all remaining holiday meats are now available to our partner agencies to order from. Listed below are the item numbers you should look for in Harvesters’ Agency Express:

• 68102-Holiday Chicken: 10.5-2 lb. average weight
• 68101-Holiday Turkey: 4½ to 12 lb. average weight

Harvesters’ SNAP Outreach Program

Harvesters’ SNAP Outreach Program helps individuals and families apply for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits.

Here are three ways Harvesters can provide SNAP support for your agency:

• Information - we have information materials you can distribute at your agency about SNAP guidelines and eligibility, local community resources, and how to connect people to Harvesters’ SNAP Hotline.
• Direct Outreach Support – a member of our SNAP team can set up a SNAP assistance table at your facility on a one-time or ongoing basis (determined by need). With there, we will educate individuals on SNAP guidelines, complete SNAP applications face-to-face with individuals or families, and distribute resources.
• Agency Partner Support – one SNAP team can train your staff on how to complete SNAP applications with individuals so your agency can handle this on an ongoing basis.

For more information, please call us at 817.843.9022 or email SNAP@harvesters.org.