

What's Cookin'

The NH Food Bank's Agency Bulletin

December 2021

Food Bank Closings

Dec. 24– Jan. 3: Christmas break Monday, Jan. 17: MLK Jr. Day

Quotable



QSR Drawing Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the 3rd Quarter 2021 QSR Drawing! Each winning agency has received a \$25 credit on their NHFB account.

- *Mascoma Valley School Food Pantry
- *Tolles Street Mission- Nashua
- *St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry– Winchester To be eligible to win next quarter, your QSR must be received on time and be completed using the <u>current online quarter's form.</u>

MealConnect

The deadline is coming soon to switch to MealConnect for Fresh Rescue reporting. As of January 1st, 2022 all agencies that participate with Fresh Rescue will be switching to this method of reporting. We will be having zoom Q&A sessions or you can watch the videos under Agency Training on the NHFB website. Zoom sessions are listed below. Contact our team if you would like to participate in any of these Zoom sessions.

December 3rd @ 3pm December 7th @ 12pm December 17th @ 3pm December 20th @ 10am

A Note From Agency Relations

Our Agency Relations Team is expanding once again and we are very excited about it. In doing so, the Agency Coordinator's territories will be changing in some ways. Keep an eye out for updates of new staff and changes to territories which may or may not affect your program.

~Jocelyn , Kristie, Stacey, Christy and Natalie

NHFB December Schedule

Please be aware of these important dates regarding closures, deliveries, and Agency Express orders.

- December's "week 4" deliveries (to Franconia, Littleton and Plymouth) will take place during "week 3" on December 16th at the regularly scheduled time and place.
- The NH Food Bank will be closed from Friday, December 24th until Monday, January 3rd.
- The last day to order before Christmas break is Tuesday, December 21st by 1pm for pickup on Thursday, December 23rd.
- Food Bank offices will reopen on Monday, January 3rd. The warehouse will reopen for order pick-ups on Wednesday, January 5th.
- You may resume placing Agency Express orders on December 28th for pickups starting on January 5th. <u>Any orders placed while we are closed will</u> not be confirmed via email until our offices reopen.

Please contact the Agency Relations team if you have any questions about these dates and changes.

Fresh Rescue Reminders

- All meat received via the Fresh Rescue program should be received frozen.
 If the meat that you receive is not frozen, please let us know so that we can address this with the store. In the same way, all meat that you give out to your clients should be frozen for clients to thaw on their own.
- Please do not make any changes to your agency's pickup schedule without letting us know. If you are approached about adding a new store or day, please let us know.
- All donations received from your assigned grocery store are to be logged on Meal Connect or the monthly recording sheet. This includes any items that are tossed out or given to another program. Total pounds received are to be logged for the store's inventory and donation purposes.
- If you do not have a scale to weigh your donations, please let us know and we can provide you with one.

Thermometers

Per Feeding America and food safety protocol, all refrigerators and freezers at your facility are required to have thermometers actively in use, ensuring your appliances are at food safe temperatures. The proper temperature for refrigerators should be between 32-41° F, while the proper temperature for freezers should be at or below 0° F. At least once a week, temperatures of your equipment should be checked and recorded on any type of log of your choosing. These logs will be reviewed at your annual inspections.

If your program is in need of thermometers (seen at the right), please contact Jocelyn and we will have some added to you next order.

Bulletin Contest Winners

In the November 2021 bulletin there was a hidden secret line included to see how many people are reading the full bulletin. We received several entries from those that found the secret. Congratulations to Sarah from Crisis Center of Central NH and to Alice from River Valley Community College as they have each won a \$25 credit for their agency account.



Monthly Spotlight

During the month of November, the NH Food Bank distributed turkeys and grocery vouchers to more than half of our partnering agencies. This year for the first time, we offered the option for agencies to also receive Butterball grocery vouchers for their clients. In total over 10,000 turkeys and 7,000 vouchers were distributed around the state. This equates to over 204,000 meals provided to families and clients throughout New Hampshire.

"We could not have served all of these families without the ongoing support from the NH Food Bank. The NH Food Bank really came through this year with all the turkeys, side items and fresh potatoes, onions and carrots." ~Joe, Madison Food Pantry.

"I can't thank you enough for the blessing of the vouchers...my people were just so thrilled to receive them. The \$15 meant so much to each one." ~Lynn, Heritage Baptist Church Food Pantry



MANCHESTER, NH 03109

What's Cookin'

Current Resident or

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
MANCHESTER, NH
PERMIT NO. 37



Safe Food Handling

All Agencies are **required** to have at least one representative attend a Safe Food Handling Class. Your Program Director/Coordinator must submit a written request, with the names of attendees to: **jcheney@nhfoodbank.org**

Upcoming Classes

Online "Zoom" session:

For Food Pantries:

Tuesday, January 11th @9:30am
For Soup Kitchens & Prepared Meals

Wednesday, December 1st @1:30pm

WELCOME

New Agencies

Mill Brook School Food Pantry

Concord

End 68 Hrs. Of Hunger **Farmington**

New Shopper Orientation

Your Program Director/Coordinator must submit in writing, the names of any shoppers to be added or removed for your agency to: **icheney@nhfoodbank.org**

Upcoming Classes

Online "Zoom" session: Wednesday, December 8th @10am

NHFOODBANK.ORG | 603-669-9725