

January 2022

Food Bank Closings

Monday, Jan. 17: MLK Jr. Day

Quotable

"Challenges are gifts that force us to search for a new center of gravity. Don't fight them. Just find a new way to stand."

~Oprah Winfrey



MealConnect

All programs participating in the Fresh Rescue (grocery donation) program should now be using the Meal Connect online reporting system. If your program is not yet signed up, we have already made several efforts to remind you and contact you of this new reporting process. If you need assistance in getting set up with a user account, please contact our team soon.

Application Renewals

Every 2 years, all agencies are required to complete and submit an application renewal as well as additional contracts pertaining to your account. This is done so that we can update our contracts and applications if needed, but also to have your current information and signatures on file for your program. Please keep an eye out over the next few weeks for updates on when this will take place. At that time, you will have 6 weeks to submit your renewal application.

A Note From Agency Relations

Happy 2022! We are excited for a new year of working with your programs and meeting the needs of those you serve.

Our team is once again expanding and will be hiring a new staff member this month. Please look for information about our newest team member soon!

~Jocelyn, Kristie, Stacey, Christy and Natalie

Agency Annual Requirements

A few years ago, The NH Food Bank instated a 3,000 pound minimum requirement per agency. For 2020 and 2021 this minimum was not enforced due to numerous program changes and leniency surrounding the needs of the pandemic.

Starting in 2022, the pounds requirement will be once again enforced. Most agencies have no trouble meeting this minimum as it equals just 250 lbs. per month and is easily attainable. Fresh Rescue donations are also counted towards this total. In the Fall of 2022, if your program is projected to not meet the 3,000 lbs. minimum we will be in contact with you as a reminder and to see how we can help you to meet the need.

New Year Reminders

- Once an Agency Express order has been submitted online, you are unable to add to the order or change it. Our warehouse teams works hard to fulfill hundreds of orders each week, and changes affect that process.
- As of December, the NH Food Bank is now requiring masks of anyone that enters the building. An email was sent out to all programs about this new rule. For the safety of our staff and other agencies, please wear a mask when picking up your order at our building, even when outdoors. If you do not have one, our staff will be happy to provide you with one.
- Food acquired from the NH Food Bank or partnering grocery stores cannot be shared with non-NHFB member agencies. This includes other regional and state food provider networks that may not be a direct partner of the NH Food Bank. If you are unsure who is or is not an NHFB partner, please reach out to anyone on our team.
- When picking up your order (at our facility or at a delivery) please check your invoice to make sure that everything is accurate and that no parts of your order have been missed. We also want to remind you to make sure your invoice is delivered to whomever is responsible for it at your facility. We do not regularly email or mail invoices, so it is up to you or the person receiving the order to get the invoice to the proper person.
- In filling out the QSR (4th quarter 2021 is due Jan 31st), consider all of the food distributed by your program regardless of where it came from. For the question that asks "Total number of meals provided by your agency from all sources" we want to know how much went out to your clients, regardless of if you received it from the NH Food Bank or elsewhere. Please see the "QSR Need To Knows" form that is included with this emailed bulletin if you have any questions about filling it out.

NH Feeding NH Farmers Grant

The NH Feeding NH farmers grant is wrapping up after a second successful year. This year 120 NHFB agencies participated to receive over \$163,000 in grants to be spent at local NH farms. This program works to not only provide nutritious farm fresh items to agencies and their clients, but also provides business and support for independent NH farmers. We are looking forward to expanding this grant and working with more programs and farmers in 2022. If you would be interested in participating this year, please contact Jocelyn at jcheney@nhfoodbank.org with any questions and to be added to the list. If we feel that your program would be a good fit, we will be in contact with you in the late Spring about the application process.

Monthly Spotlight



Our NHFB Agency Relations team wrapped up 2021 with a smile and cheer. We hope you had a good year and find happiness, peace and laughter in 2022. Our team is so happy to work with you all year long and look forward to a great new year of serving the needs of NH and getting to know your teams more.

Your NHFB Agency Relations Team:
(L-R) Natalie, Stacey, Kristie, Christy and Jocelyn



700 EAST INDUSTRIAL PARK DRIVE
MANCHESTER, NH 03109

What's Cookin' *January 2022*

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. If you or someone at your program would like to attend, contact jcheney@nhfoodbank.org

Upcoming Classes

Online "Zoom" session:

For Food Pantries:

Tuesday, January 11th @9:30am

Tuesday, March 3rd @3:00pm

For Soup Kitchens & Prepared Meals:

Tuesday, January 25th @1:30pm

Tuesday, February 16th @6:00pm

WELCOME New Agencies

New Shopper Orientation

If you or someone at your program would like to attend, please contact Jocelyn at jcheney@nhfoodbank.org.

Upcoming Classes

Online "Zoom" session:

Thursday, January 13th @10am

Tuesday, February 8th @10am