

July 30, 2015

Board of County Commissioner
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

Presentation regarding hunger in our community and
announcing the results of the 2015 H3S Food Drive

Purpose/Outcomes	Every year, Clackamas County Health, Housing, and Human Services holds a food drive to help support the Oregon Food Bank and the many organizations here in Clackamas County that rely on donations.
Dollar Amount and Fiscal Impact	No Fiscal Impact
Funding Source	None
Safety Impact	None
Duration	None
Previous Board Action	None
Contact Person	Richard Swift, Interim Director, 503-650-5697
Contract No.	N/A

BACKGROUND:

Even in a nation as wealthy as ours, hunger is a serious issue. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 50.1 million Americans live in food insecure households -- 33 million adults and 17.2 million children.

Hunger is a particularly serious problem in Oregon. It is estimated that one in five children in Oregon is food insecure, with limited or uncertain access to safe and nutritious food.

Record numbers of people are seeking food assistance. In fact, according to the most recent statistics from the Oregon Food Bank, for the first time ever, the OFB statewide network distributed more than 1 million emergency food boxes. 270,000 people per month ate meals from emergency food boxes. In an average month, 92,000 children eat meals from emergency food boxes. An additional 3.9-million emergency meals were served at soup kitchens and shelters.

Most adult emergency food recipients are looking for work, working, retired or disabled. 34 percent of those receiving emergency food are children.

Food provided by the Oregon Food Bank is extremely important for people in need here in Clackamas County. Donations are what keep places like the Clackamas Service Center on Southeast 80th Avenue, the Sandy Community Action Center, the Estacada Area Food Bank, and the Colton Community Center up and running and able to feed the hungry.

Every year, Clackamas County Health, Housing, and Human Services holds a food drive to help support the Oregon Food Bank and the many organizations here in Clackamas County that rely on donations.

In our first food drive in 2009, we collected the equivalent of 15,440 pounds of food. In 2010, we collected 11,859 pounds, 17,283.9 pounds in 2011, 18,481 pounds in 2012, 28,343 pounds in 2013 and 26,277 pounds last year.

This year, we collected the equivalent of 34,850 pounds of food for the Oregon Food Bank. This is a new record for the H3S Food Drive.

Since 2009, H3S has collected more than 152,000 pounds of food.

Every year we also hold a little friendly competition. The Foodie Award goes to the team that donated the most per capita, and the Can Do Award goes to the team that donated the most overall.

The Can Do Award: The Health Centers Division team stopped the Behavioral Health Division's two-year win streak by claiming the 2015 title. Its total of 18652.2 pounds represents nearly 30 percent of the total that H3S collected overall.

Foodie Award: The Admin/CYF teamed up for the first time this year and won the Foodie Award, breaking the four-year winning streak of Community Development and CYF (Community Development and Housing teamed up this year). Their divisions donated 245.88 pounds per person.

On behalf of H3S. I want to thank all of the staff who participated and the coordinators in each division who helped make this food drive a success. We know that in difficult times, it is important for communities to come together to help each other. The food drive is a great example of this, and we look forward to beating our record next year.

RECOMMENDATION:

No action needed.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard Swift, Interim Director