

Food Assistance Directory

It takes both public and private funds and an extensive network of volunteers, non-profit agencies, churches and businesses to help feed Lancaster County families in need. The Lincoln-Lancaster Food and Hunger Coalition provides the network to coordinate these community programs.

"Agency cooperation in Lancaster County Nebraska is by far the best I've experienced in the seven communities which I've served," says Randall S. Jones, executive director of the Lancaster County American Red Cross. "We work together for a common cause and as a result are better able to meet our community goal of fighting hunger."

Local emergency food isn't designed for long-term support of families in need. Federal supplemental food programs such as Food Stamps and WIC are the most reliable source of nutrition for those in need.

Below is a list of the primary programs and agencies which provide food assistance in Lancaster County. **Please call prior to a visit to make sure times and dates are current. Availability of emergency foods varies from day to day based on donations.** If you would like to volunteer time, food or funds, please call the agency directly.



Northeast Area Food Pantry, located at Bethany Christian Church, is part of the Emergency Food Pantries System. Director Virginia Carter (pictured) has volunteered at the pantry for 11 years.

Federal Supplemental Food Programs — for Extended Need	
FOOD STAMPS 1050 N Street 68508 471-7000 http://www.fns.usda.gov	Food Stamps is the nation's first line of defense against hunger. Food stamp eligibility is based on income, family size, household resources and other factors. Households in Nebraska must have incomes below 133% of the poverty line to be eligible (\$25,155 annually for a family of 4). On average, food stamp benefits provide 78 cents per meal per person. Call for an appointment or details.
WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 3140 N Street 68508 • 441-6200 OR FAMILY SERVICE 501 South 7 Street 68508 • 441-8655	WIC is a supplemental nutrition program serving pregnant, breast-feeding, postpartum women, infants and children up to age five. WIC provides nutritious food, health and nutrition information, breast-feeding promotion and support and referrals to programs that can help families. Eligibility includes incomes up to 185% of the poverty line (\$35,798 for a family of 4). Monthly WIC vouchers range from \$33-\$122.
COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM Indian Center, 1100 Military Road 68508 438-5231	Serves income eligible elderly: 60 years and older or families with children under 6 years. Monthly food package. Call M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM LINCOLN/LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT 3140 N Street 68508 • 441-8000	Free meals for children at income-eligible community sites. Offered during the summer when free and reduced school lunches are not available.
Local Emergency Food Programs — for Short Term Need	
LINCOLN ACTION PROGRAM 210 O Street 68508 471-4515	Lead agency in Lincoln which helps people access emergency food and move toward self-sufficiency. Office hours: M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call at least a day ahead to receive a food box on Tue or Wed. Limited food boxes may be available Thursdays. Perishable foods available Mon, Tue and Thu 1-3 p.m. & Tue 5-7 p.m. USDA commodity foods available Wed 12-4 p.m. Member agency of the Food Bank network and the Emergency Food Pantries System and Foodnet. Also works with some businesses directly for food donations. Other assistance: clothing, utility assistance, computer classes, Head Start, housing for homeless.
EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRIES SYSTEM LINCOLN INTERFAITH COUNCIL 474-3017 http://www.lincolninterfaith.org/humfrmset.htm	12 congregationally-based Emergency Food Pantries collect, sort, and distribute a 7-day supply of nutritious food to families-in-crisis via 19 human service agencies. All Emergency Food Pantry requests are screened via Lincoln Interfaith Council Office. Individuals and families can be served once every 3 months. Hours to call for screening: M-F 9 a.m.-noon. & 1-4 p.m. Call or access Web site for complete list of agencies.
FOODNET 416-6197 http://members.cox.net/foodnet/sites	Foodnet provides mostly perishable foods such as fruits, vegetables, dairy products, bread to all needy families. Foodnet has over 400 total volunteers and over 70 businesses that donate food. All food, labor, distribution sites and vehicles for hauling are donated. Anyone that is in need of food is welcome to pick up from any site. Call or access Web site for list of sites.
PEOPLE'S CITY MISSION DISTRIBUTION CENTER 1822 N Street 68508 475-6888	Food distributed: Tue, Thu, Fri, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-4 p.m.; Wed 9-11:30 a.m. & 1-4 p.m. Food boxes can be received once every 2 months. Member agency of the Food Bank network and the Emergency Food Pantries System.
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES 3700 Sheridan Blvd 68506 474-1600	Largest church-based pantry in Lincoln. Call in advance for a 7-day food box. Hours: M-Tue & Thu-Fri 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Preference given to families; single adults rarely served unless disabled. Member agency of the Food Bank network and the Emergency Food Pantries System. Other assistance: housing, clinical services, clothing, some diapers; limited financial assistance for utilities, etc.
SALVATION ARMY 2625 Potter Street 68503 474-6263	Hours for food boxes are M-F 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; 1-4 p.m. Bread and produce available Fri 9:30-11:30 a.m. Member agency of the Food Bank network, Emergency Food Pantries System and Foodnet. Other assistance: youth programs, clothing, utility assistance, computer lab and more.
GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER 2617 Y Street 68503 477-4173	Appointments needed, call first. Start taking calls at 9 a.m. Hours for food boxes are M-Thu 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Fri 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Perishable foods available Mon and Wed, registration at 10 a.m. and food distribution 11 a.m. until gone. Member agency of the Food Bank network and the Emergency Food Pantries System. Other assistance: clothing, a few household items.
INDIAN CENTER 1100 Military Road 68508 438-5231	Call M-F 8 a.m.-5 p.m. for an appointment. 7-day food box. Bread available Wednesdays, 8 a.m. through afternoon. Limited amount of produce available Thu 1:30-3:30 p.m. Provides services to eligible Nebraskans of all cultures. Member agency of the Food Bank network and the Emergency Food Pantries System. Other services: adult education, employment; health and housing services, youth tutoring and senior center programs.
FOOD BANK OF LINCOLN 4840 Doris Bair Circle 68504 466-8170 http://www.lincolnfoodbank.org	Mobile pantry, referrals. Primary supplier of food to over 100 agencies in Lincoln and southeast Nebraska. The Food Bank gathers, stores and redistributes surplus food, which comes from wholesalers, retailers, corporations, restaurants, civic, church and school groups, and individuals throughout our area. Contact if your agency needs food to serve low-income families or if you would like to volunteer. Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Local Food Programs — Meals	
GATHERING PLACE SOUP KITCHEN 1448 E Street 68508 476-7398	Free hot soup, bread, coffee, etc. M-F 5-6 p.m. No ID needed. Member agency of the Food Bank network and coordinated by the Lincoln Action Program.
MATT TALBOT KITCHEN AND OUTREACH 911 R Street 68503 477-4116	Serves free meals daily from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. seven days a week, every day of the year. Works primarily with homeless men, women and children as well as the working poor. Member agency of the Food Bank network and the Emergency Food Pantries System. Other assistance: clothing, housing and health services.
PEOPLE'S CITY MISSION 110 Q Street 68521 475-1303	Serves three free meals a day, 365 days of the year, Call for times. No ID required. Works primarily with homeless men, women and children as well as the working poor. Other assistance: homeless shelter, clothing, counseling, personal care products and diapers.
ACTIVAGE CENTERS LINCOLN AREA AGENCY ON AGING Main Office - 1001 O Street, Suite 101 68508 441-7158 • www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/mayor/aging/centers.htm	Noon meals offered at all ActiveAge Centers (9 in Lincoln and 5 in other Lancaster County towns) on a donation basis for people ages 60 and older. Reservations must be made two working days in advance. A list of dinner sites is available from the main office. Call the Senior Center nearest you for weekly menus. Other services: nutrition assessments/consultations, health & fitness, transportation, housing.
MEALS ON WHEELS - TABITHA 4720 Randolph Street 68510 486-8520	Provides a hot, noon meal to individuals in Lincoln who are elderly or disabled. You may choose to receive meals weekdays only, or 7 days-a-week on a short or long-term basis. Meals provided, regardless of ability to pay, thanks to assistance from Tabitha Foundation.
Nutrition Education	
NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM (NEP) 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A 68528 441-7180 • http://lancaster.unl.edu/nep	Free recipes and information on how to stretch your food dollars. After completing six lessons, participants graduate and receive a free cookbook. Participants learn in small groups at agency sites or individually through mail and phone visits. Call to see if you are eligible to participate.

For the most current Food Assistance Directory, go to www.lincoln-action.org. To update this list, please contact Jan Hauser, Lincoln Action Program, at 471-4848.