



## Quick Facts about **FOOD** for Lane County

Updated Oct. 23, 2012

- **While Oregon's hunger rate remains high, it's finally beginning to budge in the right direction – down!** 13.6 percent of households in Oregon lacked consistent access to adequate amounts of nutritious food (food insecurity) in 2011. That's down only .1 percent from the previous year (13.7%). Oregon is no longer in the "Top 10" list of hungriest states, but that's because many more states got dramatically worse --- not that Oregon got much better. (*USDA Hunger Report for 2011*)
- **Our donors are making a difference!!** Oregon's ability to hold the line on food insecurity rates in 2011 reflects the efforts of both the private and public sector working together to fight hunger on all fronts.
- **More than one in three Lane County residents (39%) is eligible for emergency food assistance.** (living at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level)
- **We are reaching 55% of the population that is eligible for food assistance (up from 51% in FY11).**
- **For the second year in a row, Oregon has nation's highest rate (30%) for child hunger. In Lane County, 53% of the children qualify for free/reduced school meals.**
- **FFLC's current food supply is 5.0 weeks.**
- **Food boxes contain 50-55% perishable foods and 45-50% shelf-stable foods.** Recipients will also find fewer protein-based choices on the pantry shelves. Due to the limited available food supply, more perishables are in the system. That means the life of the food box is shortened.
- **Pantries continue to report serving more people than in previous years. 72, 962 food boxes were distributed during FY12.** An additional 4,914 individual people (adults and children) relied on emergency food boxes this past year to meet their food needs. This is the same pace of growth we experienced last year and we don't anticipate it to level off this year. **(In our fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 a total of 68,048 individuals in Lane County were served through the Emergency Food Box program, which was then an increase of 8% over FY10.)**
- **USDA donations will include a bonus purchase of protein.** Chicken, pork, lamb and catfish purchased from farmers affected by the drought in the Midwest and Southeast is being distributed this fall throughout the network.
- **Lane County's unemployment rate is slowly improving (8.8% for August) but it's still about 4% above pre-recession levels.** Despite the improving job picture, we are sending out record high levels of food. The unemployment rate only reflects people getting benefits and does not count people whose benefits have expired. Most people don't access emergency food services until other resources have run out.

(more)

- Working with 116 partner agencies, **FFLC distributed the equivalent of 16,312 meals per day between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012.**
- **For every dollar donated, FFLC can access & distribute three (3) meals.**
- **In our fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, we accessed nearly eight (8) million pounds of food.**
- Partnered with a countywide network of programs and social service agencies, together we **distributed 7.6 million pounds of food.** (About 150,000 pounds of food per week).
- Served 115,917 lunches and 8,240 breakfasts to children this summer at 68 sites through **2012 Summer Food Program.**
- Distributed 157,488 healthy snacks during the 11-12 fiscal school year through **Cereal for Youth.**
- **Rescued, prepared and packaged more than a million pounds** through our Fresh Alliance and Food Rescue Express programs.