



Dear Partner Agency:

Thank you for your enduring commitment to providing healthy food to our neighbors in need. As part of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank's network of more than 1,100 partner agencies, your efforts to persist in your mission throughout the COVID-19 pandemic are nothing short of heroic. Thank you!

The pandemic's challenges have been immense for all of us; yet there have been a few blessings. Central Pennsylvanians have been generous with financial donations as well as volunteering. This has allowed CPFB to provide our Crisis Recovery Boxes (CRBs) full of purchased non-perishable food items at no cost to our partners. Donations and grants have also helped us cover the cost of healthy nutritious foods such as produce, milk, eggs, and other fresh foods. Yet, as we begin to move beyond the pandemic, CPFB must take steps to transition to more normalized donations and ensure future sustainability. Due to recent increases in the cost of food, supplies, etc. it is with careful consideration that **beginning April 1, 2022**, CPFB will phase out the no-cost Crisis Recovery Boxes (CRBs). In their place we will offer Pre-Packed Pantry Boxes (PPB) of similar size and filled with the same kind of shelf-stable products at a cost of \$12-\$15/box, depending on current supplier pricing.

Please know that if you find the above cost share rates to be a barrier for you to continue providing healthy and nutritious foods, please contact your agency services representative. Bold Goal Grants will be available to help assist with these costs. And for now, we will continue to make produce, milk, and eggs available at no cost to our partners. If the time comes that we must phase in cost sharing for these items, we will give you ample notice.

The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank is currently refreshing its organization-wide strategic plan. We are evaluating our mission through the lens of lessons learned during the pandemic, a fresh approach using data to identify areas of need and inefficiencies, and a sincere commitment to uplifting equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging. To provide updates and exchange ideas with our network, we will be hosting a series of town hall/listening session meetings in the coming month. Save the date to attend one of the virtual sessions to be held on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. or Wednesday, March 23 at 11:00 a.m. I hope every partner will be able to join us.

We are grateful for your ongoing commitment to ensure our central Pennsylvania neighbors continue to have food on their tables.

Better Together,

Tara M. Davis
Director of Agency Services and Outreach

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