

2011 Food Check-Out Week County Activities in Kansas

Anderson County Farm Bureau- Anderson County presented ECKAN (East Central Economic Opportunity Corporation) with \$150 in food and money. ECKAN addresses the hunger, employment and housing weatherization for low-income individuals and families in the community.

Atchison County Farm Bureau- Atchison County donated \$300 to the Atchison County Food Pantry housed at the First Christian Church in Atchison. This cash donation provided funds for the food pantry to purchase foods needed. In January, the pantry served 87 families, a total of 294 individuals.

Bourbon County Farm Bureau- As part of the local observance of Food Check-Out Week, the Bourbon County Farm Bureau donated \$150 to The Beacon to help the food pantry and community assistance agency purchase food for distribution to local families in need.

Cherokee County Farm Bureau- Cherokee County spent about \$100 on food and snacks for the Ronald McDonald house and donated 50 pounds of food. 3 volunteers from Cherokee County spent approximately 12 hours at the Ronald McDonald house and helped around 20 house guests.

Cheyenne County Farm Bureau- Cheyenne County spent approximately \$100 on food and \$50 on gift certificates. All the groceries (\$150) were donated to the food bank. The local grocer is a big help and he spent his time volunteering as well as adding to their food cart that shoppers could guess the total amount of and then receive a gift certificate. The volunteers spent around 5 hours reaching out to most of their community of 1,500 people.

Clark County Farm Bureau- We had two hamburger/hot dog cookouts. We have a good turnout, and explain as we're serving what it's all about. Approximately 60-70 people were served at each location.

Cloud County Farm Bureau- Food Check-Out week was celebrated in Cloud County with newspaper and radio ads and trivia questions on the radio, with a winner drawn at the end of the week, receiving a \$25.00 gift certificate to the grocery store of their choice. There were tables at the local grocery stores, where a birthday cake made of different size loaves of bread, topped with 37 candles and a big 37 on top, celebrated the 37th anniversary of Food Check-Out Week. All the table tents and placemats were sent out to the set-down food establishments in the area. Several of the board members helped man the tables at the grocery stores. The board chose to have drawings at the tables for the Kailey's Ag book series.

Comanche County Farm Bureau- Comanche County Farm Bureau put articles in the two county newspapers permitting Food Check Out Week. Each article had a picture of a grocery cart full of groceries. The individual whose guess was closest to the dollar amount of total groceries was given a \$30.00 gift certificate for groceries only.

Crawford County Farm Bureau- Crawford County Farm Bureau set up four tables through out Ron's IGA in Pittsburg, one for grains, one for dairy and eggs, one for produce, and one for meats and alternative proteins. They gave out recipe cards and food samples at each of these stations. Denise Mentzer and her daughter helped by working stations and Christy Springer made it over to help out. The rest of the volunteers consisted of county Farm Bureau members. Crawford County also had a booth set up at the front of the store. They gave out free loaves of bread and bread clips, along with other literature and color books with crayons for the kids. They also had people sign up to win two \$25.00 gift cards to Ron's IGA.

Decatur County Farm Bureau- Decatur County donated \$100 to their local food bank in honor of Food Check-Out Week and also held a Food Check-Out day at the local grocery store. They distributed 30 cent off coupons for one loaf of bread of their choice to patrons of the store. One volunteer spent 2 hours at the store and reached out to approximately 30 people.

Douglas County Farm Bureau- Douglas County spent \$96.01 on the 90 fresh baked loaves of bread that they gave away to 90 individuals at Checker's Grocery. 3 board members and the county coordinator

spent 2 hours at Checker's Grocery talking to over 100 people about Food Check-Out Week. Douglas County Farm Bureau donated \$250 in grocery gift cards to 5 area food pantries.

Elk County Farm Bureau- Two Elk County Farm Bureau board members were stationed for two hours on Friday, Feb. 25 at different local grocery stores, distributing coupons, recipes and food samples (sausage/biscuit balls). The coupons -- which were produced by our county -- saved shoppers \$1 on any one of several common food items. The recipes and food samples also included the food items listed on the coupon. Approximate number of people served directly: 100 (57 of whom redeemed the coupons) We indirectly reached around 300 people.

Ford County Farm Bureau- Five Ford County Farm Bureau Board members, county Coordinator Sonya Goetz and DA Dale Maneth met at Gene's Heartland Foods on Wed. Feb. 23rd to help the local community food bank -- Manna House -- collect food that was needed for their pantry which helps out approximately 120 families (or about 400 people) per month. Also Friendship Feast, which serves a noon meal to 85-125 people a day, was there to also get the food they were needing.

Gove County Farm Bureau- Spent \$260.21 for 140 loaves of bread, which was distributed between three county grocery stores involving four volunteers over the course of one business day.

Gray County Farm Bureau- For FCOW, Gray county had a hamburger/hot dog feed at the Cimarron grocery store, White's Foodliner. They served approximately 300 people hamburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, chips, an ice cream bar, and choice of milk. Milk & cheese were donated by For-Get-Me-Not-Dairy, buns and chips donated by Variety Vending, and White's Foodliner also donated additional items. A drawing was held to win one of 3 \$50 beef bundles donated by R&P Cattle, Penner Farms, and Sagebrush Feeders.

Greely County Farm Bureau- The Greeley Co FB Board held their annual FCOW event on Wednesday, Feb. 23rd. Grocery shoppers that day were greeted at the front of the grocery store by board members sharing the message to appreciate the food that we are provided. They were then directed to the back of the store where they received a free lunch consisting of BBQ beef sandwich, beans, potato salad and chips. In a two hour period about 115 shoppers enjoyed the meal!!

Greenwood County Farm Bureau- The Greenwood County Farm Bureau Association celebrated Food Check-Out Week, February 20-26, 2011 by surprising shoppers at the local county grocery markets with money to help pay for grocery items. Lucky shoppers in Eureka were rewarded with cash if they purchased a meat product. In Madison on the 24th, shoppers were rewarded for purchasing meat, vegetables, bread, or milk. Nutritious recipes and tips on how to shop on a budget were also shared with shoppers. A total of \$100 was given away in the two days during the event.

Harper County Farm Bureau- The Harper County Farm Bureau Association, represented by Dan and Marjorie Cartmill, Don and Joan Gill, Sid Burkholder and Mark Davis, promoted Farm Bureau's Check-Out Week at the Anthony, Attica and Harper grocery stores by distributing helpful literature and miniature loaves of bread to store customers. These 6 volunteers spent 7 hours and \$100 to reach a total of 320 people.

Harvey County Farm Bureau- Harvey County donated \$50 each to 3 county food banks and the homeless shelter. 150 table tents were also placed in county restaurants by 4 volunteers. A display at the Halstead grocery store was set up and 3 volunteers gave out nutrition information (food pyramid cards), shopping list pads and samples of the rump roast that the store had on special that week. They were there for about 2 hours and approximately 30 people were reached.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau- Jefferson County Farm Bureau donated \$200.00 worth of groceries to the local food bank, God's Storehouse.

Johnson County Farm Bureau- Johnson County FB donated 750 pounds of food to Harvesters in Kansas City. Thanks to the local Price Chopper who sold the food at cost, they spent \$500 and then donated \$200 worth of food on top of that. The total donation equaled 577 meals for those in need.

Labette County Farm Bureau- Labette County distributed approximately 200 table tents to be displayed during FCOW at 12 restaurants/cafes in Labette County. This included six separate communities. Two volunteers helped print and four volunteers helped distribute the table tents for a total of 9 hours. They also promoted FCOW in the Farm Talk display ad printed on February 23. This ad was sponsored by eleven county Farm Bureaus.

Lane County Farm Bureau- Lane County Farm Bureau donated \$250 to the Grace Café (they provide a free meal the last Wednesday of every month & is sponsored by the United Methodist Church) and also \$250 to the Lane County Food Bank.

Leavenworth County Farm Bureau - Leavenworth County Farm Bureau donated \$500 worth of groceries to the Leavenworth Assistance Center in honor of Food Check-Out Day. There were two volunteers assisting with this project and they worked 3 hours each. The Leavenworth Assistance Center serves 250-300 people per month so the food that was donated will feed 50 people for a week.

Logan County Farm Bureau- Logan County Farm Bureau made a display of groceries in a grocery cart at the local IGA store and asked customers to guess how much all the food was worth. The customer closest, without going over, won a gift certificate to the grocery store for \$50. Logan County Farm Bureau joined together with Oakley's IGA to donate the \$158.94 worth of groceries in the cart to God's Food Pantry at the end of the week. Farm Bureau donated \$106.94 and Oakley's IGA donated \$52. There were 118 people who guessed how many dollars were in the cart.

Lyon County Farm Bureau- For each day of Food Check-Out week, Lyon County Farm Bureau had the local radio station present facts about Kansas agriculture and the farmers and ranchers of Kansas and then ask a related trivia question. The winner each morning received a certificate to a local grocery store to pick up their prize. The prize consisted of a Farm Bureau grocery tote filled with the following items: a loaf of bread, a gallon of milk, a dozen eggs, a pound of bacon, a pound of sausage, a pound of hamburger, a bag of apples and a pound of butter. This year each tote full of groceries averaged about \$35.00 in cost.

Miami County Farm Bureau- Miami County donated \$250 to the All American Beef Battalion to be used for Steaks for Troops for their Food Check Out Day activity.

Neosho County Farm Bureau- Neosho County has four displays set up in grocery stores around the county. At two stores (in Chanute), the local tractor dealer parked a tractor in the parking lot and each tractor had a sign attached to it saying, "Using the average price of a gallon of milk, how many gallons would it take to equal the purchase price of this tractor?" Shoppers entered their guess inside there store where there was a display of FCOW materials and entry forms. The closest guess won a store gift certificate. At the other two stores (St. Paul & Erie); we were unable to get tractors, so those stores have displays with FCOW materials, and a drawing for a store gift certificate. Each gift certificate is \$25. The displays are spread out throughout the county, so a lot of people were reached.

Ness County Farm Bureau- Ness Co. Farm Bureau celebrated Food Check-Out Week by setting up a display of portion size examples in Ralph's Supermarket in Ness City and at Ma & Pa's in Ransom. On Wednesday morning Feb 23, the 40th customer at Ma & Pa's was Vera Storer of Brownell. In the afternoon at Ralphs Supermarket the 4:00 customer was Barbara Reinert of Ness City. Ness County Farm Bureau paid for the food items in their cart as they went through the check out counter.

Norton County Farm Bureau- Norton County gave away two \$25 gift certificates to Almena Market in Almena, KS. They also had FCOW trivia questions throughout the week and the winners received a meal for 4 from area grocery stores. Norton High School Student Concession workers also placed small cards

containing agriculture trivia facts in 150 bags of popcorn at a home basketball game. 10 cards were redeemable for \$5 if returned to the Norton County Farm Bureau office.

Osborne County Farm Bureau- Osborne County Farm Bureau donated \$300 to local food pantries (\$150 each to Downs Ministerial Alliance and Osborne Ministerial Alliance). Number of people reached approximately 200.

Ottawa County Farm Bureau- Ottawa County Farm Bureau held their Food Check Out Week Celebration on Wednesday, February 23rd at the local grocery store – Gene's IGA. They had a spin the wheel game where shoppers spun the wheel and answered questions relating to agriculture. They also gave away loaves of bread, bread clips, grocery lists, information about good nutrition and recipes. They also had a drawing for a \$50.00 gift certificate from Gene's IGA. Ottawa County spent about \$130.00, had 2 volunteers who worked a total of 8 hours. Over 50 people stopped by the table and visited about Food Check-Out Week.

Pottawatomie County Farm Bureau – Pottawatomie County participated in Food Check-Out Week by purchasing \$100 worth of groceries and taking it to the food pantry in St. George KS. They set up a booth at Dyers IGA in Wamego and gave away 50 loaves of bread and put them in the FB Food Check-Out Day reusable bags. They also put information in each bag about Food Check-Out Week, along with the Food Check Out Day recipe cards, grocery lists, etc. They also gave away a kid's basket with affordable healthy snacks in it & two \$25 gift certificates to Dyers IGA, by a drawing. We had 5 board members there to help and reached approximately 75 people.

Pratt County Farm Bureau- Pratt County Board Members set up shop at the Pratt Dillon Store on Feb. 23rd to celebrate "Food Check-Out Day". 100+ shoppers stopped by and visited about the time it takes to "grow a cheeseburger" and about agriculture. Two \$50.00 gift certificates to Dillon's and several FB "Grocery Totes" were given away to shoppers. Food and cash donations of \$162.05 were collected for the Pratt Christian Food Bank.

Reno County Farm Bureau- Reno County Farm Bureau set up a booth at a local Dillon's grocery store. The display had an interactive game where shoppers matched the country with how much disposable income was spent on food each year. Then they could register for a \$50 Dillon's gift card. They also gave away bread bag clips and Ag Fact booklets. They gave away a total of 100 clips and had 75 people sign up for the gift card. There were 4 volunteers there for a total of 4 hours.

Rooks County Farm Bureau- Rooks County Farm Bureau collected 13.5 pounds of food.

Saline County Farm Bureau- Saline County Farm Bureau contacted the Salina Emergency Food Bank and asked them what agricultural products they could use. They said they needed eggs (in the dozen cartons so they can cut them in half for families) and they needed butter, so they could also divide that as well as use it for some of their cooking classes that they give. They ended up donating (at the cost of \$225) 96 dozen eggs and 36 pound boxes of butter. A board member (with a strong back and nice truck) helped with the delivery.

Scott County Farm Bureau- Scott County spent \$130 while 4 volunteers spent 2 hours reaching out to approximately 60 people for their Food Check-Out Week activity.

Sedgwick and Cowley County Farm Bureaus- Sedgwick County partnered with Cowley County Farm Bureau and purchased \$1,250 worth of groceries for Ronald McDonald House. Sedgwick County donated \$1000 dollars and Cowley County donated the other \$250. 6 volunteers from Sedgwick county spent 24 hours reaching out to 1,536 people and 1 volunteer from Cowley County spent 3 hours reaching out to 384 people.

Seward County Farm Bureau- Seward County handed out 100 loaves of bread donated by the local Dillon's store and registered 62 people for a free bag of groceries. They gave away \$50 in groceries which was 5 bags w/ two nutritious meals per bag. They also handed out Farm Bureau recipe cards.

There were 4 FFA students and 5 board members in staff that volunteered 2 ½ hours at the local Dillon's store.

Shawnee County Farm Bureau- Shawnee County Farm Bureau donated \$500 worth of food to the Ronald McDonald House in Topeka. They shopped for the food and did the presentation on Feb. 22nd. Two TV stations were at Ronald McDonald House for the presentation. Volunteers spent 3 hours on this event and left one of the table tents on the dining room table so those at the house would know what had taken place.

On Feb. 25 a display was set up at the Hy-Vee store showing a bushel of wheat, the number of pounds of flour from that bushel of wheat and then the number of loaves of bread from the bushel. Volunteers gave away 200 loaves of bread donate by two bread companies, bread clips and the hand out from Food Check-Out week and recipes. They surprised 50 shoppers by purchasing the food items in their shopping cart. They thanked shoppers for eating and pointed out that if they did not, we would be out of a job and so would all the people who work at the store.

Approximately \$2700 was spent purchasing groceries. Six board members took part in the event and were at the store for 4 hours. At least 250 people plus other shoppers and those that work at the store were reached.

Sherman County Farm Bureau- Sherman County handed out KFB grocery totes with FCOW tents, tips for a tighter budget, and KFB member benefits. They handed out over 100 totes to Wal-Mart shoppers and then with the remaining 100 grocery totes, donated them to the local food bank to help put food in. Overall total dollars spent would be about \$400 for supplies and grocery totes.

Stafford County Farm Bureau- donated \$150 to three schools in the community. They will prepare healthy snacks for testing time or prepare a meal for a family night.

Sumner County Farm Bureau- Sumner County donated \$500.00 to the Wellington Food Bank for Food Check-out Week.

Thomas County Farm Bureau- Thomas County participated in FCOW by setting up food stations at the local Dillon's store with state women's committee members as volunteers. They also distributed 100 loaves of bread to customers during the day. They donated \$200 of ground beef to Genesis Food Bank from J&B Meat Market and donated \$100 to each of the Thomas County elementary schools who participated in the backpack program. Brewster's hometown grocery store also distributed 25 loaves of bread during the week as well as Farm Bureau and nutrition info. Thomas County FB volunteers delivered bags of groceries to the 2 families who had babies during the week at Citizens Medical Center in Colby.

Trego County Farm Bureau- Trego County Farm Bureau gave away 125 loaves of bread, two \$25.00 grocery gift cards and 50 Blue grocery bags (\$281.63) and included information on how much food costs and a pamphlet with trivia questions. They also gave \$50.00 donations to two food pantries in WaKeeney: Church of God and Ministerial Alliance.

Wabaunsee County Farm Bureau- Wabaunsee County was able to donate 18 lbs. of food, (\$45 worth) to the county food pantry. They also gave away \$75 worth of food to customers at a local grocery store. Two board members were able to pass out the food for 2 hours. Fifty people received the donated food.