

# HIGH PLAINS FOOD BANK



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**(For Immediate Release)**

**Contact:**

Emily Bell, Communications and Marketing Manager  
(806)350-1427 W (806)679-6480 C

## **High Plains Food Bank Seeks to Expand Senior Food Program to Canyon, Claude, and Hedley Texas and Surrounding Communities**

*Initial qualifying event will help food bank determine expansion feasibility for senior food program.*

High Plains Food Bank (HPFB) seeks to expand a senior adult food program to Canyon, Claude, and Hedley, Texas, in an effort to offer eligible senior adults (60 years and older) a resource for quality, supplemental nutrition. High Plains Food Bank will host a qualifying event on May 14 in Canyon, TX and 2 qualifying events on May 24 - one in Claude and another in Hedley, TX. The food bank hopes to attract local seniors in those cities, as well as those in surrounding communities. These initial events will help the food bank gain a better understanding of the needs of senior adults in each market and nearby area. Based upon interest and turnout at these qualifying events, the food bank will determine the feasibility of providing the senior food program to these communities, on a monthly basis. Seniors attending a qualifying event will need to bring **identification and proof of income**. Those who qualify will receive a supplemental box of food during the course of the qualifying outreach event.

A form of **identification** may include any of the following: driver's license, state ID card, birth certificate, permanent resident card, passport, military ID, refugee visa, baptismal certificate or health ID card. And a form of **proof of income** may include any of the following: Social Security letter, paystub from previous month, income tax return, bank statement, or a supplemental security income letter (SSI).

### **Canyon, TX CSFP Event** (to serve south Amarillo, Canyon, Happy, Hereford, and surrounding areas)

Monday, May 14, 1:00 – 3:00pm  
Freedom Fellowship Church  
55 Hunsley Road  
Canyon, TX 79015

### **Claude CSFP Event** (to serve Claude and all other surrounding areas)

Thursday May, 24, 9:00am – 10:30 am  
Armstrong County Show Barn  
901 S. Hurley  
Claude TX, 79019

### **Hedley CSFP Event** (to serve Hedley, Memphis, Clarendon, and all other surrounding areas)

Thursday May, 24, 1:00pm – 3:00pm  
Hedley Senior Citizens  
112 Main St.  
Hedley TX, 79237

Seniors who qualify during a CSFP qualifying event on May 14 or 24 will receive a 25-30-pound box of supplemental food and a 2-pound block of commodity cheese during the course of the event. The value of the box of food is between \$60 and \$70.

**The event is open to the public.** Based upon the numbers of senior adults who are interested and may qualify, High Plains Food Bank will determine the feasibility of offering this program to seniors in the Canyon, Claude, and Hedley, TX communities on a monthly basis.

HPFB partners with the Texas Department of Agriculture to provide the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) to eligible seniors, 60 years of age and older. Seniors who qualify for the program receive a 25-30-pound box of food each month, along with a 2-pound block of commodity cheese, intended to be a healthy addition to meals they prepare at home when other food sources are running low. The items included in the CSFP food box are U.S. Department of Agriculture products, and therefore seniors must qualify for the program by first meeting USDA's *Income Eligibility Guidelines*, which will be listed on a form provided.

*Should the program begin to operate in cities listed, seniors 60 years and older who meet eligibility requirements will be enrolled. Participants must recertify every 6 months.*

**Program Background:**

CSFP was authorized under the Agriculture and Commerce Protection Act of 1973. The purpose of the CSFP is to improve the health and nutritional status of elderly persons 60 years of age or older who are at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines through nutrition education activities, and the donation of supplemental foods.

The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to administer the CSFP in Texas. The High Plains Food Bank is a Contracting Entity (CE) of the TDA's administration of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

**High Plains Food Bank's CSFP Caseload:**

TDA has given High Plains Food Bank (HPFB) a caseload of 2,000 participants to serve per month. HPFB began administering CSFP in October of 2017.

###

**More about CSFP from USDA:**

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfsp/commodity-supplemental-food-program-csfp>

###

**About High Plains Food Bank**

Food banking solves two problems: hunger and waste. High Plains Food Bank (HPFB) is a humanitarian resource responsible for securing, processing, and distributing food to 180 charitable organizations who provide it directly to persons in need, in the top 29 counties of the Texas Panhandle. In 2017, HPFB distributed 8.2 million pounds of food to over 96,000 households. In an effort to fight food insecurity and improve the health of those served, HPFB provides a variety of community programs, including Kids Cafe, Direct Mobile Distribution, a senior adult food program (CSFP), and nutrition education through The Garden at High Plains Food Bank. The food bank also assists individuals with the application process for SNAP, CHIP, and Medicaid. It is High Plains Food Bank's mission to alleviate hunger for the 1 in 7 in the Texas Panhandle who struggle with food insecurity, including 1 in 4 children.

*High Plains Food Bank is an equal opportunity provider.*