

THE FOOD SECURITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
HAS A MISSION TO END  
FOOD INSECURITY IN RAPID CITY



SERVING UP  
*Success*



RAPID CITY  
COLLECTIVE  
IMPACT

# NOBODY IS EXEMPT FROM LIFE...

She's a wife and a mom, a talented singer and dancer, a college student with a full-time job. She will finish her Bachelor's degree soon and then plans to pursue her Master's.

**"Give people the benefit of the doubt until you know the true story."**



*\*Name and likeness have been changed to protect person's identity*

To know Sarah's\* life now and her goals for the future, few would imagine some of the struggles she and her family have faced in the past. For more than 10 years, as school and job situations fluctuated, so too did their income.

Sarah's family qualified for benefits through the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. She says she tried to budget well and put healthy food on the table with those dollars, and she never wanted to stay on the program longer than necessary.

"It was kind of embedded in me to never become someone who's going to be dependent on governmental assistance if you don't have to be – because there are people out there who actually need it," Sarah said.

In the summer of 2019, Sarah was happy to share that she and her husband earned enough money that they no longer qualified for food assistance. Still, those benefits helped her family through a tough time.

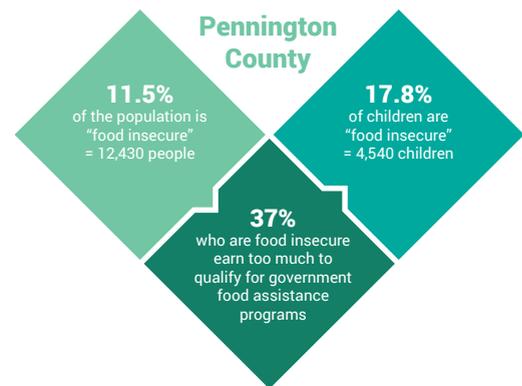
"Nobody is exempt from life," Sarah said. "Give people the benefit of the doubt until you know the true story."

## STATISTICS

According to Feeding America, food security is a federal measure of a household's ability to provide enough food for every person in the household to have an active, healthy life.

Children struggling with hunger are more likely to repeat a grade in elementary school, experience developmental impairments and have more behavioral and social problems.

*\*2017 numbers provided by Feeding America*



## SUMMER FEEDING

### Total Meals Served:

2017 = 109,473  
2018 = 106,951  
2019 = 110,468

2018 Adult Meals = 2,029  
2019 Adult Meals = 5,010

### Summer Feeding Partners:

Club for Boys  
YMCA Rapid City  
Youth & Family Services  
Rapid City Area Schools

*\*Adult must accompany child to receive free meals*



# ADDRESSING THE GAPS

Rapid City Collective Impact's Food Security Oversight Committee (FSOC) partners collaboratively develop innovative ideas to address the following food insecurity gaps.



For the past two years, the FSOC has partnered with the Community Health Center of the Black Hills to provide food insecure diabetic patients with access to nutrition education and prescribed food boxes and fresh food vouchers to support healthy lifestyles. Early impact reporting indicates that client blood glucose levels, appointment compliance, cooking skills and eating habits are improving.



The FSOC partnered with Fork Real Community Café to provide access to food nutrition education and meals to families cooking on a budget during weekend hours with childcare provided. Participants were sent home with simple cooking tools, recipes and food supplies so that meals could also be prepared at home.

The FSOC has partnered with Bethel Assembly of God, Volunteers of America and the Black Hills Farmers Market to increase access to food during the weekend and/or after business hours in central and north Rapid City, where some of our most food insecure community members reside. These efforts have included establishing or expanding food pantry access and providing programming to veterans, low-income families and youth where they live or already access services.

The FSOC and Meals on Wheels are partnering with Rapid City Area Schools, YMCA and Youth & Family Services to increase youth participation in the summer feeding program. This strategy includes collective marketing over the past three years and feeding adults who accompany youth to summer feeding sites.

*(See summer feeding updates on opposite page)*

## \$50K IMPACTS FEEDING SOUTH DAKOTA

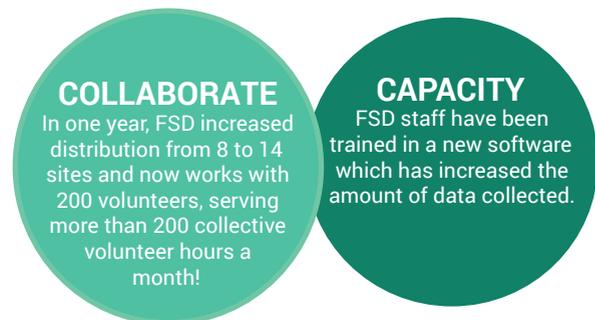
The \$50,000 Community Action grant from Black Hills Area Community Foundation to Feeding South Dakota (FSD) impacts our community for the better.

Participation at the Community Health Center Mobile distribution increased by 300 percent.

There was an overall increase of nearly 400 percent in the accessing of mobile pantries throughout the community.

By promoting a more dignified self-selection process and removing transportation barriers, the mobile pantry has significantly improved FSD outreach to families in need.

Site partners have truly engaged with FSD to make the mobile pantry effort a success. For example, Pennington County Housing sends an email, social media updates and fliers to all its residents to advertise the mobile schedule. Open Heart Church offers a warm meal and other services in conjunction with the mobile pantry.



### IMPACT by the numbers...

	Individuals Served	Households Served	Pounds Distributed
Oct.-Dec. 2018	2,511	700	19,882
Jan.-Mar. 2019	3,758	1,357	53,515
Apr.-Jun. 2019	9,032	2,952	121,082
Jul.-Sep. 2019	8,963	3,013	110,138
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,264</b>	<b>8,022</b>	<b>304,617</b>

# AGENCY PARTNERS

*Coming to the table together.*



**RV MINISTRIES**



**OYÁTE KIN  
CHANȚÉWAŠTEPI**

