

Walmart and Feeding America are helping out Native Clubs across the country by providing low-cost food opportunities! In May of 2010, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation announced their commitment to end domestic hunger through a \$2 billion cash and in-kind promise with Feeding America. Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, is providing a great opportunity for Native Clubs to access minimal-cost food at any of their 202 local member food banks. Please take the time to read the information below and apply today!

**To become an agent of your local food bank, follow the simple, general guidelines below:**

**1. Identify local food bank.**

- a. You can access this by finding your Club on the corresponding *Site Information* Excel spreadsheet.
- b. You may also go to *feedingamerica.org* and use the *Food Bank Locator* to identify your closest food bank.

**2. Contact your Agency Relations person.**

- a. On the *Site Information* Excel spreadsheet, your contact's information will be provided on the same line as your Club. This information will also be provided on the *feedingamerica.org* site once you use the *Food Bank Locator*.
- b. Let them know you want to become an agency of the food bank.

**3. Follow food bank's agency application process**

- a. After speaking with the Agency Relations person, you will be sent a formal application. Be sure to review all information and submit your paperwork.
- b. Applications vary from state to state, so you will need to submit the requested information specific to your food bank.

**4. Upon submission, your Agency Relations (A.R.) person will be in contact with you as to whether or not you have qualified to become an agent.**

- a. Be sure to ask the A.R. person how long it will take to become improved. The wait may be longer for some Native Clubs depending on how many food banks the state has.

Below is important information to note. Although these issues were specific to Feeding South Dakota food banks, other Native Clubs should be aware and prepared to address the following:

- There are no fees to apply.
- The Native Clubs will need to prove their 501 (c)(3) status. (This can be done by sending a copy of their IRS Determination Letter with their application.)
- The local food bank will do a site visit to evaluate the Club. This is typically done immediately after the application has been reviewed.
- When accepted as an agency, the Native Club will most likely be known as an *on-site feeding program* and not a *food pantry*.
- At least one staff member of the Club will need to have gone through some type of food safety training. In South Dakota, if a staff member has not gone through this training, the local food bank will provide it.
- Once approved as an agency, you can either pick up food at the food bank or have it shipped to you.
- Typically, you will be invoiced for the food you pick up at the food bank and will then be expected to pay on a monthly basis. This may differ based upon your local food bank.
- The prices of food may vary but are in the range of \$0.18 per pound for meat and snack foods, \$0.09 for produce and bread.

For any further assistance, please contact Jenny Schroeder at [jenny@realtimesites.com](mailto:jenny@realtimesites.com) or 605.301.4808.

Below is a list of Native Clubs that are agents (or in the process of becoming an agent) of their local food banks:

<b><u>Native Clubs of South Dakota</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Food Agency Status</u></b>
BGC of Three Districts	Ft. Thompson, SD	<b>Approved</b>
BGC of the Missouri River Area	Wagner, SD	<b>Approved</b>
BGC of the Grand River Area	McLaughlin, SD	<b>Approved</b>
BGC of Brookings	Flandreau, SD	<b>Approved</b>
BGC of Lower Brule	Lower Brule, SD	<b><i>In process</i></b>

<b><u>Native Clubs of North Dakota</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Food Agency Status</u></b>
BGC of the Three Affiliated Tribes	New Town, ND	<b>Approved</b>
Spirit Lake Nation BGC	Fort Totten, ND	<b>Approved</b>

<b><u>Native Clubs of Minnesota</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Food Agency Status</u></b>
Red Lake Nation BGC	Red Lake, MN	<b>Approved</b>
BGC of the Leech Lake Area	Cass Lake, MN	<b>Approved</b>

## Agency Membership

How to Become a Feeding America Food Bank Agency

### ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

Organizations that are interested in becoming an agency of a Feeding America food bank to receive donated products must:

- ◆ First qualify under certain criteria set forth by the IRS and Feeding America\*
- ◆ Meet other requirements that are specific to the local food bank
- ◆ Complete an application process

The Feeding America member food bank's Agency Relations Department will help the organization determine if it is eligible to apply and then understand the requirements that must be met to be a member agency.

*Please note:* It is at the food bank's discretion on whom they select to be member agencies of the food bank. Feeding America has no authority over determining the eligibility of an agency.

\*All organizations interested in becoming a member agency of a Feeding America food bank must be federally tax exempt 501(c)3 organizations, wholly-owned by a 501(c)3 organization or church. Feeding America food banks are able to select the classifications of the 3 listed above that they will allow as their member agencies. For each classification there are other eligibility requirements that must be met.

### HOW TO APPLY

1. Find the local Feeding America food bank.  
Use the Food Bank Finder Directory on the Feeding America Website:  
[www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org).  
Feeding America food banks can serve multiple counties and even multiple states, using various models of distribution. Please contact the food bank that is listed for the zip code entered for the search.
2. Contact the local food bank and ask for the Agency Relations Department. Let them know that you are interested in becoming an agency of the food bank.
3. Follow the food bank's agency application process and submit all the necessary information that the food bank needs to qualify the organization and process the application.

Our mission is to feed America's hungry through a nationwide network of member food banks and engage our country in the fight to end hunger. **Learn more at [feedingamerica.org](http://feedingamerica.org)** and by following us at **[facebook.com/FeedingAmerica](https://facebook.com/FeedingAmerica)** and **[twitter.com/FeedingAmerica](https://twitter.com/FeedingAmerica)**.