



FOOD BANK OF NORTH ALABAMA

# AGENCY NEWSLETTER

November 2024

## holiday card artwork



In partnership with our Development Team, we are collecting artwork to send out in our thank you notes to our donors this holiday season!

Simply print the coloring sheets provided and return by mail or drop off in our office. Deadline for artwork submission is December 13th!

**CLICK BELOW TO PRINT NOW!**

*\*\* Please do not email completed artwork back to us as we will be unable to use scanned submissions.*



## MYTH-BUSTING USDA

### MYTH: USDA is a lot more work.

Non-USDA	USDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temperature Logs</li> <li>• Invoices</li> <li>• Demographic Reports</li> <li>• Pest Control Log</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temperature Logs</li> <li>• Invoices</li> <li>• Demographic Reports</li> <li>• Pest Control Log</li> <li>• <i>Eligibility Forms</i></li> <li>• <i>Monthly Inventory</i></li> </ul>

**FACT:**

USDA requires files to be kept longer, daily vs weekly temperatures, but really only has TWO additional requirements.

**Additional Requirements presenting challenges?**

**We have Solutions.**

**Daily Temperatures?**

Wi-Fi Thermometers that automatically log for you.

**Monthly Inventory**

Searchable item sheets & easy to use forms with hands on training available.

**More Papers to Keep?**

Electronic File System (also great for distribution check in!)

**Eligibility Forms feel limiting?**

To receive USDA foods neighbors need to meet eligibility requirements. This may seem discouraging BUT *these forms are self attesting*, meaning **no proof of income or identification required.**

Forms only have to be completed annually

*These forms also make your monthly demographic reporting extremely easy as well as provide the ability to speed up your check in process for repeat visits!*

### Would you say yes to one or more...

**Does your group distribute regularly?**

**Do you like consistency in your boxes/offerings?**

**Do you like to know what is in your warehouse order?**

**Do you distribute to a large number of households?**

**Do you serve a large amount of prepared meals ?**

**Do you want to grow your food assistance program?**

# YES?

USDA is a great fit for *almost* any program. Let us explain how it works for yours!

## ASK ABOUT USDA!



# Happy Holidays

**The Warehouse and Food Bank will be closed the following days in December:**

**Tuesday**

**December 24**

**Wednesday**

**December 25**

**Wednesday**

**January 1**

### LAST CALL TO APPLY

Final month to get your application in to be considered for our partner advisory council

**PAC APPLICATION LINK BELOW**

### Monthly Reporting Link

**Click Below!**

This demographic report is essential for validating our food distribution efforts in North Alabama.

These reports play a crucial role in advocacy efforts at both local and national levels, as well as in grant applications to support our agencies' capacity building.

This is a requirement for ALL agency partners, **even if you did not distribute that month.**

**Submit for November by December 15th!**

# Criminals and cyber-attackers are trying to trick you so they can take your EBT benefits!

## DON'T LET THEM.

### **Don't:** Give your information to ANYONE:

- On the phone,
- Through text or
- By clicking links in emails

DHR will never ask for your card number or PIN number over the phone, via text, or by email.

Be mindful of any 3rd party apps you put your SNAP card information on.

### **Do:** Change your PIN every month right before you get your benefits on your EBT card.

Not sure how? Call the number on the back of your card and select option 3

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## What to do if your benefits are stolen?

- Visit your county DHR office to complete a stolen benefits report  
<https://dhr.alabama.gov/county-office-contact/>
- If you are unsure, contact your local office at <https://dhr.alabama.gov/county-office-contact/>
- Call the number on the back of your card to report your card stolen and order a replacement card.
- If you need help finding a food pantry visit: <https://feedingalabama.org/need-help/>

Protecting your benefits keeps **YOU** from being a  
victim

