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#### The Lunchbox: A Program of Community CORE

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### A Program of Community CORE

Ross and Zev Allen

Co-Founder and Programs Coordinator of Community CORE



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### History:

*2013: CORE 501C3 Status* 

2014: Inaugural Bookmobile and Lunchbox Summer Programming 2015: Summer Programming 2.0 #foodinsecurity

### **Mission**:

Creating a world with spaces to Live, Work, Play, & Grow



# Program Overview

#### What we do

•Weekly summer food distributions from the last

week of May until the second week of August.

#### Who We Serve

•Food insecure families who reside in Jackson County, Kansas. Means testing for financial need established using the federal free and reduced lunch program eligibility guidelines.





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# Where We Operate

#### Whiting

• City Park

#### Netawaka

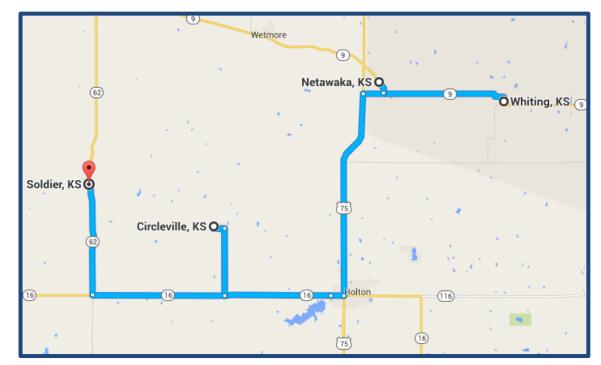
 Senior Citizens' Center

#### Circleville

Christian Church

#### Soldier

• City Park





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# **Program Overview**

### **Our Organizational Partners**

- We obtain foods as a registered community agency with

Harvesters - The Community Food Network of Topeka.



United Way of Greater Topeka





## **Community Buy-In**

- Engaged 12 volunteers each week who assisted with the distribution of food
- Engaged 56 unique volunteers
- Partnered with United Methodist Church's "Healthy Congregations" group which helped fund food trailer and volunteered distribution prep
- Leveraged \$3,090 in direct community giving and inkind donations from individuals and local businesses







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### Programmatic Developments in 2015

- Participation rate increase, per cap expenditure decrease
  - Total number of program participants increased by approximately 11%
  - Number of participating families increased by approximately 5%
  - Per capita program cost decreased from by 9.6% or \$7

Year	Number of Families	Percentage increase	Total Number of Participants	Percentage increase	Per capita program cost
YR1: 2014	41	-	103	-	\$72.81
YR2: 2015	43	4.88%	114	10.68%	\$65.79



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### **Programmatic Developments in 2015**



- Expanded food variety to include
  - Fresh produce including
    - Apples, onions, potatoes, carrots, sweet potatoes, sweet corn, etc.
  - Baked goods
    - Artisan breads, buns, etc.
- Infrastructure development
  - Purchased new trailer using externally donated funds and retrofitted for programmatic use through in-kind donation of local body shop.



# **New Challenges**

- Logistics of introducing new food products
  - Harvester's was unable to deliver some of their food products. This necessitated developing a new delivery system for pickups at their Topeka location and the integration of new volunteers.
  - Sometimes shipments of bread and/or produce would be unsuitable for distribution and needed sorting #foodinsecurity





### **Program Expansion**

- New Geographical Participant Base
  - Increasing the number of program participants and the volume of distributions by moving into a new service area in Holton, KS
  - Partnered with Area Health
    Agency to identify high need
    program participants who
    are currently underserved.





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