

Sponsors

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
Partnership for a Healthier America	Joanna Sabally	Good Food Cities is PHA’s collective impact model with the vision to double produce consumption in 15 cities by 2030. Our goal is to enhance and expand nutrition security by increasing the supply, access, education and marketing of fruits, vegetables, and other nutritious foods. Good Food Cities activates evidence-based, sustainable solutions for nutrition security to uproot the social determinants of health. We do this work in partnership with local stakeholders. https://www.ahealthieramerica.org/good-food-cities-278
Hunger Free Kansas/ KHF	Erika Debrick Kelly	This is Kansas, the breadbasket of the world. The people who live in this great state are the same people responsible for putting food on the plates of millions around the globe. So how is it that so many of our neighbors go home at the end of the day only to find that their own pantries are empty? At Hunger Free Kansas, we’re working to fix that. By supporting organizations from across Kansas, we’re helping to develop a unified front that will one day end food insecurity in the state and lead to a truly hunger-free Kansas. Initial funding and management for this initiative is provided by the Kansas Health Foundation (KHF). Ending hunger in Kansas is the first major health challenge KHF is investing in under its new strategic framework. https://hungerfreekansas.org/

Food Bank, Food Pantries & Other Grocery Distribution

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
Kansas Food Bank	Brian Walker	The Kansas Food Bank is committed to ensuring that fresh, healthy produce is available to all of our neighbors, regardless of income or zip code. Over the past ten years, we have intentionally increased our focus on the distribution of fruits and vegetables through our network of partner agencies. In 2014 we distributed 1.1 million pounds of produce in Wichita. Fast forward ten years later to 2024, we have doubled and distributed more than 2.3 million pounds of fresh produce to households in Wichita through 39 partner food pantries and mobile pantry sites. Our approach is grounded in accessibility. Fresh produce is always offered at no cost passed on to our agencies. The Kansas Food Bank covers all costs of produce, packing, and transportation. And we have in the past provided commercial coolers to help remove the significant barrier of capacity. We rely on a combination of donated produce and produce purchased directly from suppliers to ensure consistent availability. Each year, we dedicate over one million dollars of our budget specifically to acquiring fruits and vegetables for distribution.

		<p>We are also continually working to expand variety, increase distribution points, and strengthen partnerships with local agencies so that more families can access the nutritious foods they need. By placing a strong emphasis on produce, we are not only helping address food insecurity but also contributing to better health outcomes in the communities we serve.</p> <p>Through these ongoing efforts, the Kansas Food Bank is proud to be part of the collective work in Wichita to improve fruit and vegetable access and ensure that all residents — especially those facing low income and low access — have the opportunity to put nutritious food on their tables.</p> <p>Specific programs provided by the Kansas Food Bank are:</p> <p>Feeding Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kansas Food Bank Wichita Cargill Cares Complex - Central collection and distribution facility for food <p>Feeding Kids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food 4 Kids – weekend food packets • Summer Food Program – Meals in the summer • Filling the Gap – meals during spring break and last 2 weeks of summer (when the USDA program ends) <p>Feeding Seniors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bob Box Program – helps put missing meals on the table • Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) - Balanced diet boxes & health information <p>Fresh Produce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh Produce Initiative – Safety net of nutritious, fresh foods for food insecure households • Food is Medicine Project – Specialized program for diabetic/pre-diabetic clients <p>Mobile Food Pantries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps get food to areas of our state that are under-served or have very limited pantry service <p>https://kansasfoodbank.org</p>
Food Pantries	Varies	<p>There are a variety of churches and other community-based pantries serving the Wichita area. Many offer services one day a week or less, for 3 or fewer hours, although some offer more regular hours 3-4 days a week. Many of these organizations rely completely on volunteers for their operations. Hours can change without listings being updated. Many require specific paperwork or an ID and/or have a once-a-month usage limit.</p> <p>Current listings of food pantry locations include:</p> <p>https://kansasfoodsource.org/category/help-agency/sedgwick-county/</p>

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		https://unitedwayplains.org/wpfd_file/one-page-resource-guide-english/ https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/sheriff/detention-bureau/score-program/food-resources/
Highlight: The Center ICT	Michelle Vann	<p>The Center ICT is a local nonprofit community-based organization. Each week, our Food Bank opens its doors to provide groceries and hygiene items to families in need. It's more than a distribution — it's a moment of connection, compassion, and community.</p> <p>https://thecenterict.org/</p>
Highlight: Living Waters	Jay Hawes	<p>Food pantry offering client choice options, similar to a grocery shopping experience and a community health worker (CHW) to support navigation of other community resources.</p> <p>https://firstnaz.org/living-waters/</p>
Highlight: Dear Neighbor Ministries	Jeremiah Ortiz	<p>Community Food Pantry includes distribution of locally sourced produce. Farmer led interactives at Hilltop Community Center.</p> <p>https://dearneighbor.org/dear-neighbor-services/community-food-pantry</p>
Epic Church	Becky Wallace	<p>We are a “choice” food pantry associated with the Kansas Food Bank. We provide fresh fruits and vegetables to families as they are available to us. Plus we post on Facebook and Instagram when there are other food drives and produce giveaways in Wichita</p> <p>https://www.epicchurch.us/the-table</p>
Mobile & Drive-up Food Distribution Sites	Varies Denise Cavazos Carol Brewer	<p>In Wichita, there are 44 square miles of the city that are considered to be “food deserts” – meaning that food is not readily accessible in those areas for neighbors living there. For this reason, Kansas Food Bank has partnered with organizations, businesses and volunteers to host various monthly mobile distributions, that are “just in time” deliveries, or delivered just before being distributed. See above for webpage listings.</p> <p>Examples of Participating Organizations:</p> <p>Salud + Bienestar –Recognizing the nutritional needs of many families, this program is dedicated to distributing groceries every second Friday of the month.</p> <p>Dorothy’s Lane – In collaboration with Kansas Food Bank, mobile produce distribution at Word of Life Church. We rely on what the food bank has but we do ask local farmers for anything extra they may have in order to provide fresh vegetables and fruit. We host a food pantry on the 2nd and 4th Mondays every single month.</p>
School- based food pantries/		<p>Sedgwick County Environmental Resources: Cafeteria Share Tables - One strategy for reducing school food waste and reducing child hunger is the use of cafeteria share tables where surplus food can be distributed from students who don't want it to students who do. Most schools</p>

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food distribution		<p>in Wichita have share tables; however, a potential way to make share tables more effective is to utilize a share fridge to keep unopened perishable items safe and fresh. We are working to install share fridges in schools in USD 259. https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/environment/</p> <p>WSU Kiah Duggins Shocker Support Locker – Food & hygiene pantry open each weekday for WSU students, faculty and staff https://www.wichita.edu/student_life/sga/Shocker_Food_Locker.php</p> <p>Friends University Food Pantry Newman University Food Pantry- the Student Government Association hosts a pantry with drinks, snacks and over-the-counter medicine as well as items like soap, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products and toilet paper. https://www.instagram.com/friendsu_foodpantry/</p>
Paxton’s Blessings Boxes		<p>Freestanding wooden boxes throughout Wichita and South Central Kansas that offer non-perishable food items to anyone who needs them, with “hosts” who keep them stocked. https://www.facebook.com/paxtonsblessingbox/</p>

Meal Sites

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
Various		Hot meals and/or sack lunches are offered every day of the week in Wichita through a variety of churches and resource centers. Most are located in the central area of the city. The number of locations vary by day of the week. See above for directory links that provide info on both food pantries and meal sites.
Highlight: Second Light	Dan Clifford	<p>Second Light is a community-driven initiative to provide comprehensive services for people in Wichita experiencing homelessness or those at-risk of becoming homeless. Second Light, in partnership with the Lord's Diner, provides three meals a day, seven days a week to Wichita's unhoused neighbors. https://secondlightwichita.org/</p>
Highlight: Lord’s Diner		<p>The Lord's Diner exists to combat hunger in the community. The Diner's singular mission is to serve a nutritious meal with dignity and respect to anyone who is hungry. Open 365 days a year. Provide mobile hot meal distribution as well. https://thelordsdiner.org/</p>
Highlight: Union Rescue Mission	David Hodge	<p>The Union Rescue Mission of Wichita provides a full breakfast, lunch, and dinner each and every day of the year for the homeless men staying at the shelter, respite, or enrolled in our Solid Ground life-change program. https://urmwichita.org/</p>

Federal Direct Assistance Programs

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
WIC	Sandra Reichenberger	The Women, Infant and Children's (WIC) program provides nutritious food packages for each client category. WIC serves pregnant, breastfeeding, recently delivered women, infants and children to age five. Income eligibility is 185% of poverty (household of four and make up to \$59,478 annually) and be found at nutrition or medical risk. https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/health/services-and-providers/women-infants-and-children-wic/
TANF/ Successful Families Program (KS)		Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a federally funded, state-run program. Also known as welfare, TANF helps families pay for: Food, Housing, Home energy, Child care In addition to cash assistance for living expenses, many states offer job training and help with tuition payments for work-related education. The Kansas TANF program is called the Successful Families Program. The Successful Families Program offers employment services and support services to low-income families. That support may include cash assistance. Families can only get TANF for 24 months in a lifetime. https://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/ees/Pages/Cash/TANF.aspx
SNAP		The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, is one of the most powerful tools for addressing hunger in our community. This federal nutrition program, administered by the state, uses an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card, much like a debit card, to help eligible people stretch their food budgets and buy the healthy foods they need at authorized locations. https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program
CSFP		The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) works to improve the health of persons with low-income, at least 60 years of age, by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. USDA distributes both food and administrative funds to participating states and Indian Tribal Organizations to operate CSFP. https://www.fns.usda.gov/csfp/commodity-supplemental-food-program
TEFAP		The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of people with low income by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. USDA provides 100% American-grown USDA Foods and administrative funds to states to operate TEFAP. https://www.fns.usda.gov/tefap/emergency-food-assistance-program

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CACFP	The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) is a federal program that provides reimbursements for nutritious meals and snacks to eligible children and adults who are enrolled for care at participating child care centers, day care homes, and adult day care centers. CACFP also provides reimbursements for meals served to children and youth participating in afterschool care programs, children residing in emergency shelters, and adults over the age of 60 or living with a disability and enrolled in day care facilities. CACFP contributes to the wellness, healthy growth, and development of young children and adults in the United States. https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp
NSLP	The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day. The program was established under the National School Lunch Act, signed by President Harry Truman in 1946. https://www.fns.usda.gov/nslp
SBP	The School Breakfast Program (SBP) provides reimbursement to states to operate nonprofit breakfast programs in schools and residential childcare institutions. The Food and Nutrition Service administers the SBP at the federal level. State education agencies administer the SBP at the state level, and local school food authorities operate the program in schools. https://www.fns.usda.gov/sbp/
SUN Programs	SUN Meals: Free meals and snacks are available to all kids 18 and under at schools, parks, and other eligible locations. No application needed. SUN Bucks: SUN Bucks provides \$120 in grocery benefits per eligible school-age child when school is out for summer. SUN Bucks can be used to purchase food from authorized retailers in participating states, Tribes, and territories. It may also be known as Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (or Summer EBT) in certain locations. SUN Bucks is offered in Kansas. https://www.fns.usda.gov/summer

Point of Sale Support for Customers

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
The Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (KSFMNP)		Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, KSFMNP provides annual benefits to low-income seniors to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs and honey from authorized farmers at Farmers Markets in Kansas. https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/1041/Kansas-Senior-Farmers-Market-Nutrition-P

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Double Up Food Bucks	Erin Bishop	Double Up Food Bucks matches your SNAP EBT dollars at select grocery stores, farm stands and farmers markets in Kansas and Missouri, so you get twice the fruits and veggies. https://doubleupheartland.org/
Wichita Healthy Corner Store Program		The Wichita Healthy Corner Store Initiative is an effort to help people in Wichita neighborhoods get more fresh fruit, vegetables, and other healthy foods. It works with small store owners, community groups and local food supplies to bring healthier choices to stores in areas that need them most. The program helps stores add healthy items. Stores get training, equipment and signage so they can sell the new healthy items. https://www.wichitahcsi.com/

Nutrition Programs for Infants and Children

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
See WIC above		
Children 1 st Kansas	Kathleen Webb	We have three education gardens in partnership with Catholic K-8th schools. We also provide emergency food boxes at Atwater Neighborhood Resource Center, to homeless families in our program, and shared with the Wichita Police Department. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Gardens - We have fresh food programs to teach growing, harvesting, eating, and preserving fresh food in three neighborhoods (Zip codes: 67203, 67216, 67217) • Teaching Kitchen - We have cooking classes with the children who work in the garden so they learn what to do with their crops. • Bread Club of Wichita - At our events, bakers of all ages learn to bake, share recipes, and make bread to donate to families experiencing food insecurity in Wichita. https://www.children1stks.org
Maize Education Foundation	Megan Barnard	Maize USD 266's Food Service Department in conjunction with 35 educators operates 45 school gardens with at least one in each of our 14 school buildings. The students are exposed to growing their own produce & the produce is served at school lunch. The programs goal is to move toward more sustainable school meals through growing our own produce. Research shows that increasing participation in school meals (district-wide) helps eliminate barriers to healthy meals for low-income students. https://mef.usd266.com/impact/funds-in-action

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Wichita Public Schools Food Services Program	David Paul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve in 82 facilities • Universal Free Breakfast – All Wichita Public Schools students are eligible for free breakfast • Free and reduced meals • Summer meals program - The summer meal program is a USDA funded program and is designed to provide kids and teens ages 1-18 with healthy meals during the summer months when school is out of session. Both adults and children. 3 meals per day are provided every day (approximately 50,000 breakfasts and lunches per day) • Fresh fruit and vegetable program- at elementary schools that apply on an annual basis. • School gardens • Source dairy locally, working on additional locally-grown and produced items, including fruits and vegetables <p>https://www.usd259.org/operations/nutrition-services</p>
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Community Gardens

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
Various		<p>There are several community gardens in the Wichita area. A little under half provide donated produce in the community. Some have a fee for plot rental, where others do not.</p> <p>There are two directories of community gardens in the area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT Food Circle: https://ictfoodcircle.org/local-food-directory/wpbdp_category/7-comm-garden/ • K-State Research and Extension: https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/local-food/community-gardening/documents/Community%20Garden%20List%202023.REV041723.pdf
Highlight: Riverside community garden		<p>In 2025, 40% of our garden space is dedicated to donating fresh produce to the community through our sharing station at 802 Amidon, delivered to the Linwood Senior Center and through participating in the Master Gardener's Plant A Row program. Produce is also shared at our monthly community gatherings. In addition, a community herb bed is accessible 24 hours a day. During our Spring Earth Day celebration, we share seeds, vegetable starts and native pollinator plants at no charge with anyone that stops by. This year, we are recipients of a Grant from AARP to increase accessibility to the garden. We are installing wheel-chair accessible pathways and beds and some 32" height raised beds to increase access to those with limited mobility. Construction will be completed by the end of the year.</p> <p>https://riversidegarden.org/</p>

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Highlight: Wichita Public Library	Parker Daniel	Wichita Public Library is currently in the planning phase for its RISE Community Garden (RCG) at the Maya Angelou Northeast Branch Library. The RCG Mission is to support education and food access in the Angelou Service Area, and the RCG Vision is to empower people to rise together, growing community as well as food. We are rooted in shared earth (RISE).
Highlight: CORE Gardens of Wichita	Paul Abromeit, Manager	Community Operations Recovery Empowerment (CORE) currently operates the Robin Rounds Memorial Garden located at 1121 N. Green. This garden was started in 2013 to provide free produce to the community and teach young people the skills and tools of gardening. https://www.coreofwichita.org/programs
Wichita State University Green Group Community Garden	Greengroup wsu@gmail.com	Communal garden. No fees. This garden is on WSU campus open to the community. 10 raised beds, plot of soil and fruit trees. The garden is run by the WSU Green Group, a group concerned with sustainability and food insecurity on and around the WSU campus. Produce shared with gardeners and community; extra is donated to Shocker Support Locker. https://www.wichita.edu/academics/academic_affairs/wsusustainability/community-garden.php
Highlight: Legacy GardenWorks		We hire youth from urban high schools, group home placements, and foster care and bring them together to learn about hard work, where food comes from, and how to work together as a team. Young people working at GardenWorks get to experience the rewards of hard work as we literally taste the fruits of our labor. We also make time for art and creativity. https://www.legacyworksict.org/

Local Farmers and Produce Distribution

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
ICT Food Circle, K-State Research and Extension, Sedgwick County	Abbey Draut	ICT Food Circle directory has info on local growers and producers and more. Let ICT Food Circle help you connect to local food and farms in the Wichita area! Search over 150 listings in our local food directory to find farmers and farm products, businesses, farmers' markets, and community gardens that are part of our growing local food scene. https://ictfoodcircle.org/
Common Ground	Donna McClish	Common Ground Producers and Growers is a Mobile Farmers Market and Mobile Food Hub which provides fresh locally grown fruits and vegetables to food deserts and food insecurity areas. We do this by partnering with Kansas farmers and growers to provide responsibly farmed "organic" produce to our communities at an affordable price. https://commongroundpg.org/common-ground/

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ICT Farms	Thomas Montiel	<p>Found throughout the Wichita, Sedgwick County, and surrounding areas, our sites and projects are each a unique opportunity to build something special. Each Farm site is usually classified in one of two categories (sometimes both).</p> <p>1) Grow-Your-Own-Farm sites, in which private property owners, schools, churches, non-profits or other groups work with us to grow on their property. Participants receive resources, plants, seeds, education and support at no-charge. Requirements to participate include agreeing to grow using our standards and or methods and donating at least 50% of all produce back to those who are food insecure.</p> <p>2) Community Farm sites are sites usually on publicly owned land, or sites that are open for public use. These sites are used for educational. training and or experimenting purposes.</p> <p>https://ictfarms.com/</p>
Norm Oeding		I have a large urban garden and offer produce at a local farmers market.
Charolett Knapic		<p>Managing a homestead in District #1</p> <p>Gifted food growing on and outside the fence</p> <p>Gifted food shared with others and organizations</p> <p>Community gardening</p> <p>Partnering with other organizations for growing and distributing</p>
Ogallala Commons	Brenda Bertog	<p>“Let food by thy medicine”. – Hippocrates. Where in Wichita can you easily purchase quality, locally grown, organic fresh produce and proteins at any time during the year? Our mission is to increase fresh, locally grown produce, meat, dairy, grains [etc] available year-round to Wichita community. We plan to expand our +5,000 acre family farm and geothermal greenhouses from western Kansas to Wichita.</p> <p>https://ogallalacollective.com/</p>
Sedg Co Harvest Hub- The Farm Bureau	Renee Elpers	<p>The Harvest Hub aims to strengthen three key parts of the food system: production, processing and distribution. This community-based digital platform offers farmers and ranchers tools to showcase their businesses, connect with each other and sell directly to local, regional and national customers. Members also gain access to technical assistance, market development and advertising through Shop Kansas Farms’ 170,000-strong audience.</p> <p>We are building a regional food system in Sedgwick County called the Sedgwick County Harvest Hub that focuses on production, processing and distribution. For Wichita community members to have access to local fruits and veggies, we need more growers in the area.</p>

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Shop Kansas Farms, Kansas Farm Bureau	Rick McNary	<p>The Shop Kansas Farms and Kansas Farm Bureau partnership has helped continue to provide the direct-to-consumer market benefiting both farmers and grocery buyers.</p> <p>https://shopkansasfarms.com/</p>
Grown By App, shared by NXTUS		<p>We work with start-up businesses through our Pilot Competition program to bring innovative solutions to Wichita and rural communities in Kansas by way of Community, Health or Vibrancy focused innovations. This past cohort had noted company GrownBy compete and represent a farmer's co-op that they would like to introduce to KS communities.</p> <p>Farm Generations Cooperative is committed to empowering local farmers while promoting transparency in the food supply chain. Leveraging modern technology and tradition, the cooperative aims to build a more just and sustainable future for food and the farmers who make it possible. In 2019, Farm Generations Cooperative launched GrownBy, the first free and farmer-owned software platform built for local farm sales. By seamlessly connecting growers with consumers across America, GrownBy fosters a direct and fair exchange between farmers and shoppers. The platform allows small farmers to thrive collectively, while building a more resilient and community-forward agricultural landscape. Farm Generations Cooperative is sowing the seeds for positive change, and cultivating a future where small farmers grow big—together.</p> <p>https://coop.grownby.com/</p>
Kanbe's Markets	Casey Claps	<p>Kanbe's Markets is a 501(c)(3) perishable logistics company focused on sorting, distribution, and prioritizing how fresh produce reaches communities in need, currently based in Kansas City. We transform food loss into food access, by tackling supply chain challenges unique to the perishable food system.</p> <p>https://www.kanbesmarkets.org/</p>
Mr. MC's Market	Quantin McIntosh	<p>Mr. Mc's Market has evolved from a neighborhood seed and bait shop into a community grocery and wholesale distribution serving corner stores, rural grocers, and institutions across Sedgwick County. They focus on specialty items and produce staples that are sourced from local and regional growers. The business is a core distributor for the City of Wichita's Healthy Corner Store Initiative (HCSI) and works closely with community-based organizations to improve access to healthy, affordable food.</p>

Food Rescue

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
ICT Food Rescue	Amanda Pickens	<p>ICT Food Rescue’s mission is to distribute unavoidable food surplus, sharing with the food insecure of Wichita. ICT Food Rescue partners with over 50 local and national restaurants, caterers, and food producers to keep unavoidable surplus food out of landfills and into the hands of those who are experiencing food insecurity. By working closely with shelters, transitional housing programs, and other organizations that serve meals onsite, ICT Food Rescue ensures that unavoidable food surplus is used to its fullest potential. In 2024 they recorded 331,430 pounds of rescued food. This amount of food was turned into the equivalent of 276,192 meals.</p> <p>https://ictfoodrescue.org/</p> <p>Programs:</p> <p>Plant A Row Plant A Row is a vital community-driven program that empowers home gardeners, hobby farmers, and community gardens in Wichita and Sedgwick County to fight food insecurity by planting and donating surplus produce, fruits, and herbs. This grassroots program taps into the abundance of local gardens and green spaces to rescue fresh, nutrient-rich food that might otherwise go to waste.</p> <p>A proud partnership between ICT Food Rescue and K-State Research and Extension - Sedgwick County Master Gardener volunteers, Plant A Row mobilizes community volunteers to conduct weekly produce pickups during the growing season, June 1 through early September. In 2024, staff and volunteers completed 383 pickups, collecting and distributing over 4,239 pounds of fresh, locally grown produce to nonprofit partners serving food insecure individuals in Wichita. This produce was delivered directly from drop-off locations to Bread of Life, His Helping Hands, and New Life Church & Outreach Center.</p> <p>Food For Thought Food for Thought is a robust, ongoing digital campaign featuring eye-catching infographics and quick-tip posts with facts, statistics, and waste-reduction guides. Its goals are to reduce edible food waste at the household and business levels, increase food literacy, resourcefulness, and confidence in waste-reduction practices, support food insecurity relief by promoting surplus food donations, and build a culture in Wichita where food is valued, used wisely, and shared generously.</p> <p>Full Plate Project The Full Plate Project is a meal-focused initiative created to support individuals experiencing food insecurity during critical life transitions. The program provides thoughtfully assembled meal kits that include shelf-stable ingredients and simple, easy-to-follow recipe cards. Each kit is designed to create a complete, nourishing meal using only basic kitchen tools.</p>

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		<p>Game to Grub</p> <p>Game To Grub is an innovative outreach and recovery program dedicated to educating, advocating, and recruiting hunters to donate their harvests through established initiatives such as Farmers and Hunters Feeding The Hungry and Kansas Hunters Feeding The Hungry. ICT Food Rescue proudly plans to partner with these organizations to amplify their efforts, increasing meat donations and volunteer involvement to nourish our community's food insecure.</p>
ICT Food Rescue/ Sedwick County Extension		<p>Locally, the cooperative effort between the Sedgwick County Extension Master Gardener volunteers and ICT Food Rescue makes it simple for people to contribute fresh produce that will be used to feed those in need in our community. When you donate by dropping fresh vegetables, herbs or fruit off at one of the local collection sites, it becomes bags of produce for families or seniors in need, meals for those in shelters or low income housing, or a healthy snack for kids in daycare.</p> <p>https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/local-food/plantarow.html</p>
Sedgwick County Environmental Resources	Catherine Johnson	<p>One strategy for reducing school food waste and reducing child hunger is the use of cafeteria share tables where surplus food can be distributed from students who don't want it to students who do. Most schools in Wichita have share tables; however, a potential way to make share tables more effective is to utilize a share fridge to keep unopened perishable items safe and fresh. We are working to install share fridges in schools in USD 259.</p> <p>https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/environment/</p>

Programming

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
Salud + Bienestar	Denise Cavazos, Catalina	Salud + Bienestar (Health + Wellness) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support and assistance to the Hispanic community in their search for information on health issues. Their goal is to ensure that all Spanish speakers have access to relevant resources and knowledge to improve their well-being and quality of life. Salud + Bienestar have Community Health Workers supporting the community and host a variety of classes on relevant health topics, including nutrition.
Prime Fit Youth Foundation	Kim Moody	Prime Fit Youth Foundation integrates nutrition access into our prevention and mentoring programs by partnering with local growers, food banks, and community organizations to bring fresh produce into low-access neighborhoods. Through our family engagement nights, youth programs, and "Fresh Fridays" initiative, we promote healthy eating, provide food and nutritional resources, and teach the connection between nutrition, brain function, and emotional regulation—empowering youth and families to make lasting wellness choices.
Dr. Laila Cure, WSU		Our research team is investigating how to use emerging AI technologies to understand the food opportunity system in Sedgwick County and support individuals, policymakers and researchers in answering questions about the food system.

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University United Methodist Church	Shiela O'Connor	Our experiment with giving away crockpots and simple freezer meals was a tremendous success. We served over 100 families and had another 100 families in line. People were very excited to receive a crockpot and two nutritious fast and easy freezer meals. We learned a lot along the way and now we are in planning stages for how to make this a sustainable ministry of our church. https://UUMC.net
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Nutritious Food Marketing

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
ICT Your Plate, ICT Food Circle (see above)		<p>Who: Anyone interested in increasing the demand for locally produced and healthy foods in the greater Wichita area can participate.</p> <p>What: #ICTYourPlate – join the movement on Instagram, Facebook, or anywhere else you might use a hashtag! Share your shopping finds, meals, or recipes on social media, using the hashtag #ICTYourPlate. Be sure to call out the local farms, producers and/or businesses featured on your plate!</p> <p>When: Use #ICTYourPlate all year long to promote your local food products, purchases, or events!</p> <p>Where: Anywhere around the Wichita area.</p> <p>Why: Help generate a movement that encourages and reminds consumers to eat and shop locally produced foods while also creating a recognizable image/logo that shouts to the community #ICTyourPlate: add locally grown, raised or produced foods to your plate.</p> <p>https://ictfoodcircle.org/ictyourplate/</p>
Good Good Food for All Campaign, Partnership for a Healthier America	Joanna Sabally	<p>Good Good Food for All is a rallying cry to empower nutritious food choices in an inclusive way that meets everyone where they're at.</p> <p>https://www.ahealthieramerica.org/good-good-food-campaign-245</p>

Nutrition and Culinary Education

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), K-State Research and Extension, Sedgwick County	Laurie Carr	<p>The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) offers free nutrition classes to low-income families, youth and children in grades 3-12.</p> <p>Classes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make healthy food choices on a budget • Plan nutritious, delicious, and quick meals • Prepare featured recipes • Follow proper food safety precautions • Incorporate more physical activity into your everyday life <p>EFNEP Sedgwick County offers virtual series and in-person classes in partnership with community organizations. Curriculum offered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose Health: Food, Fitness, and Fun (grades 3-5) • Teen Cuisine (grades 6-12) • Eat Smart, Move More (adults) • Create Better Health (adults) <p>We work with a wide range of community organizations including recreation departments, libraries, social services, churches, schools, food pantries and more!</p> <p>If you're a community organization interested in hosting a series or an individual interested in taking an EFNEP nutrition series, you can contact Laurie Carr at 316-660-0119 or lauriec@ksu.edu.</p>
K-State Research and Extension, Sedgwick County	Sara Sawyer	<p>K-State Research and Extension in Sedgwick County offers nutrition, health and wellness education to Sedgwick County residents. Some programs offered are: Dining with Diabetes, Diabetes: You Are in Control, Healthy Body, Healthy Brain and Healthy Eating on a Budget.</p> <p>https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/nutrition-health-wellness/</p>
K-State Research and Extension, Sedgwick County	Sara Sawyer	<p>The Kitchen Restore program provides "starter kits" that include new household kitchen tools and equipment to individuals and families in need. (Not currently funded)</p> <p>https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/nutrition-health-wellness/kitchen-restore/</p>

FOOD ACTION IN WICHITA

DIRECTORY OF FOOD RELATED PROJECTS

Greater Wichita YMCA	Tammy Krier	Cooking Matters for Parents- The YMCA is excited to offer a series of hands-on cooking classes called Cooking Matters to pregnant women, parents or caregivers of young children (you do not have to be a Y member). The free Cooking Matters series helps families learn to shop for and cook healthy meals on a budget.
Eat Real America	Krista Sanderson	Eat REAL America members receive meal ideas, nutrition advice, hundreds of recipes, a time-saving customizable shopping list, “how-to” instructional videos, and much more...all focused on REAL food! This is an online platform, and Krista is based in Wichita.
Registered Dietitians	Various	There are a variety of licensed Registered Dietitian services available in Wichita, both in person and through telehealth.
Highlight: Flexible Nutrition, LLC	Maddi Osburn	Maddi Osburn started Flexible Nutrition in 2020 out of the desire to align her food philosophy with how she counseled clients. She wanted to show people that they could have a flexible approach to food, without rigid diets or restriction, and still improve their health. Flexible Nutrition is now a group practice with 3 Registered Dietitians and an Administrative Assistant. We provide individual nutrition counseling and consulting services in Wichita, KS, the surrounding communities, and virtually throughout the U.S.
Highlight: Sunrise Nutrition Consulting, LLC		Sunrise Nutrition specializes in binge eating, emotional eating, child eating concerns, positive body image and making peace with food. With advanced training in nutrition, I can help you make sense of conflicting nutrition information, helping you to become positive and joyful about eating! Registered dietitians based in Newton.
NICHE, WSU Tech		The National Institute for Culinary and Hospitality Education (NICHE) is a multifaceted entity combining innovative curriculum with business operations to create synergistic learning outcomes for students and a highly skilled and passionate workforce that will not only benefit NICHE but Wichita itself. Our mission is to celebrate and enhance our culinary landscape and our founding principles are sustainability, accessibility and innovation. Located in downtown Wichita, NICHE features state-of-the-art commercial kitchens, classrooms, a demonstration kitchen, an open-to-the-public food hall, a student-run café, and a rooftop event center. https://nicheks.com/

Growing Education and Support

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
K-State Research and Extension		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master Gardener - The Master Gardener program is a volunteer program in which K-State Research and Extension "trades" classroom training for volunteer time. Training consists of 40 to 50 hours of instruction in all aspects of horticulture. After training is completed, volunteers donate an equivalent number of hours of service as was received in instruction. https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/gardening-lawn-care/master-gardener-volunteer-program/ • Ag/ Horticulture Extension Agent - Extension agents are professional educators, community connectors and innovators who serve as a link between Kansas State University and communities across Kansas. We work with community partners in each county to determine needs and deliver research-based information related to agriculture, natural resources, youth development, families, health, wellness, community vitality, and more. https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/ • Growing Growers - This new program pairs aspiring fruit and vegetable growers with a local host farm for the growing season where they experience hands-on education and one-on-one mentorship, and it provides them with a series of workshops, teaching technical aspects of specialty crop farming and business skills to run a profitable enterprise. https://www.sedgwick.k-state.edu/local-food/growing-growers/
ICT Farms	Thomas Montiel	<p>We are working to end food insecurity by leveraging area resources, creating accessible educational opportunities, and building a local food system defined by abundance and resilience. Offering a range of training and educational programs, ICT Farms will work with each community to identify strategic partnerships and build local neighborhood-based food systems to create positive economic and health impact to scale.</p> <p>https://www.ictfarms.com/</p>
ICT Treehuggers	Sarah Myers	<p>ICT Treehuggers Foundation is a grassroots nonprofit based in Wichita, Kansas, dedicated to environmental stewardship, agricultural education, and community health. Through initiatives like the Healthy Corner Store program, ICT Treehuggers works to expand access to fresh, locally grown produce and health resources in historically under-resourced neighborhoods. The organization activates community gardens, hosts hands-on workshops, and collaborates with local partners to address food insecurity, soil health, and sustainable living. By blending environmental justice, wellness, and workforce development, ICT Treehuggers empowers residents to grow their own food, support local businesses, and cultivate healthier, more resilient communities across Wichita.</p>

Community Commercial Kitchens

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
A La Carte	Sabrina Stephens	A La Carte is a service initiative of Create Campaign, Inc. which is designed to provide commercial kitchen space to Create Campaign participants. A first-of-its kind for the State of Kansas, according to the Kansas Department of Agriculture, food-based entrepreneurs gain access to business development education, business growth resources, commercial kitchen space and industry connections. https://www.createcampaignks.com/alacarte
Empower	Ariel Rodriguez	Empower Commercial Kitchens is Wichita's largest nonprofit shared-use kitchen, offering licensed commercial kitchen space and business support for food entrepreneurs across South Central Kansas. Our 5,000-square-foot facility includes multiple fully equipped kitchens, prep stations, cold and dry storage, and 24/7 access for active users. https://empowernorthend.org/programs/commercial-kitchen/
The Shared Kitchen	Diane Kriwiel	The Shared Kitchen is a commercial kitchen designed to help small food businesses trying to get their start. https://thesharedkitchenict.com/

Healthcare/ Food is Medicine

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
Ascension Via Christi	Brittany Ruiz	Food insecurity remained a need across all communities served by AVC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • screen patients for social determinants of health and connect them to community resources • integrating Find Help's (findhelp.org) Neighborhood Resource into EHR system to ultimately have a closed loop referral system • provide cash or in-kind donation (e.g., food, hygiene, volunteer)
HealthCore Clinic (FQHC)		HealthCore's Food is Medicine program involves patients with an A1c level greater than or equal to 9. Their cohorts of patients receive weekly food boxes, diabetes education courses, monthly primary care visits and SNAP-Ed cooking courses.
Great Plains Diabetes		Our mission is to provide innovative care and resources for individuals, families, and communities affected by diabetes. To do that, we provide state of the art diabetes treatment options, offer disease management specifically tailored to each individual's unique needs, and dedicate our practice to helping individuals, families, and communities live well with diabetes. Programs include: patient education, professional education sessions, Camp Live Well (children K-4)
Chronic Disease and Self-Management Classes		National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP), Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES) and Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP). Programs with classes of varying length. For example, DPP is a year-long, evidence-based program with education, a coach and a support group that supports healthy eating and physical activity. Offered at community-based locations through several organizations, including the Sedgwick County Health Department, Central Plains Area of Aging and the KUMC Internal Medicine Department.

<p>United Healthcare Community Health Plan</p>	<p>Nutrition support for high-risk pregnancy: Pregnant members, identified as high risk and in care coordination, get food support. Food support is for the last trimester and first month post-partum. Member receives \$145 credit per month to use from designated website (only healthy food items available for purchase). Member works with Care Coordinator who determines need.</p> <p>Post-discharge Mom's Meals: Get 14 meals (two meals a day for seven days) when being discharged from a medical facility, have mobility needs, no family support, and are at risk for readmission due to nutritional issues. Available within 30 days of discharge. Call member services: 1-877-542-9238, TTY 711, or work with your discharge planner.</p> <p>Nutrition classes: \$50 cooking item and food journal: Members who complete a nutrition education program with KSRE can request a food journal and cooking item, such as: blender, air fryer, slow cooker, electric griddle, etc. Members can contact UnitedHealthcare upon class completion to request the reward.</p> <p>Dining with Diabetes: Members with type 2 diabetes (or their caregivers) are eligible to attend a K-State Research and Extension Dining with Diabetes class, at no cost. Limited to one set of classes annually per member/caregiver. To access, call Member Services: 1-877-542-9238, TTY 711.</p> <p>You can find our complete list of Value Added Benefits for 2025 here: https://www.uhc.com/communityplan/kansas/plans/medicaid/community-plan/mltss This link and any 2026 updated links will be posted here: https://www.uhc.com/communityplan/kansas/plans/medicaid/community-plan</p>
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Worksite Wellness

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
Health and Wellness Coalition	Shelley Rich	The Health & Wellness Coalition is leading two workplans for the KDHE Chronic Disease Risk Reduction grant. The goal through July 2026 is to promote adoption and implementation of interventions to support sustainable systems and/or improved access to nutritious foods in community settings. The objective is to assist three worksites with implementing a pilot project related to a healthy and local nutrition policy.
Work Well Kansas	Dr. Elizabeth Ablah	To create sustainable change in the health of a worksite, the culture must be changed by identifying and implementing practices that are evidence based, feasible, replicable, effective and have significant public health impacts. Our goal is to create healthier worksites in Kansas through worksite implementation of policies, systems and environmental best practices. Worksites across the state are taking what they are learning and putting it into practice. (This initiative is not currently funded in full.) https://www.kumc.edu/workwell-ks.html

Coalitions

Organization	Contact	Program/Service Description
Health & Wellness Coalition		<p>The Health & Wellness Coalition's mission is to promote physical activity and good nutrition to all generations living in the greater Wichita area. We are currently promoting good nutrition through a CDRR grant focused on healthy workplace policy, a Food Secure Community Initiative grant focusing on Economic Inequality (a root cause of hunger), and the Pathways to a Healthy KS BCBS grant addressing food pantry work, communal meal and a community garden.</p> <p>https://hwcwichita.org/about-us/</p>
Health Alliance of Sedgwick County		Community partners with an interest in public health working together to impact health-related policies and systems and the wellbeing of all people.
Sedgwick County Health Improvement Plan		<p>The Sedgwick County Community Health Improvement Plan is a three-year community health improvement process that identifies priority issues, develops and implements strategies for action, and establishes accountability to ensure measurable health improvement.</p> <p>https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/health/assessment-and-planning/</p>
Richard Robinson CBA	Bryce Graham	<p>The Richard Robinson District Community Benefits Agreement (RRCBA) Group, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Wichita, Kansas, dedicated to uplifting historically marginalized communities through equitable access to resources, opportunities, and development. Founded in 2021, RRCBA serves as a bridge between residents, developers, and institutions to ensure that community voices shape local growth. Guided by 16 community themes—including food accessibility, health, education, and financial empowerment—RRCBA leads transformative initiatives such as the Department of Energy–funded Renew America’s Schools partnership with USD 259 and the Healthy Corner Store Initiative to combat food insecurity. Through strategic collaborations and legally binding Community Benefits Agreements, RRCBA works to build a thriving, self-sustaining future for all Wichita neighborhoods.</p> <p>www.rrcba.com</p>
Kansas Food Pantry Collaborative	Natasha Frost	<p>The Food Pantry Collaborative is a peer learning group for food pantries in Kansas to connect, learn and problem solve. These quarterly calls will be participant led- bring your questions, wins and challenges to share with the group! Topics may include ranking foods with the Healthy Eating Research Nutrition Guidelines, gathering feedback from neighbors, or offering choice at pantries. For more information contact Natasha at natasha@seed2roots.com.</p>
Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition	Brenda Bandy, Executive Director	<p>The Kansas Breastfeeding Coalition works to promote and protect breastfeeding and human milk feeding to improve Kansas families’ health and well-being.</p> <p>https://ksbreastfeeding.org/</p>

Technical Assistance and Support

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
Kansas Rural Center	Tom Buller	<p>The Kansas Rural Center (KRC) is a private non-profit research, education and advocacy organization with deep roots in Kansas agriculture, communities, and grassroots organizing. Begun in 1979 to address the loss of family farms, concentration of land and natural resources into fewer hands, and the rise of a capital intensive agricultural system that often leaves people out of the equation, KRC works to identify alternatives for a food and farming system built on stewardship that engages both rural and urban citizens, providing healthy and safe food, and meaningful livelihoods.</p> <p>In 2022, the Kansas Rural Center (KRC) and our partners, Kansas Wesleyan University and Common Ground Producers and Growers, applied for grant funding from the USDA to work on developing the regional food system in Central Kansas, particularly the counties surrounding I-135 from Wichita through Salina. As KRC has worked with our non-profit partners, producers and retailers of locally grown products we have focused on building relationships between farmers and creating a network of growers who have the desire to work together and create a network or "cohort" that is farmer-owned and led and working to increase local food access in Central Kansas.</p> <p>https://kansasruralcenter.org/krc-team</p>
Kansas Rural Grocery Initiative		<p>The Rural Grocery Initiative, housed within K-State Extension, aims to sustain locally-owned rural grocery stores to enhance community vitality and improve access to healthy foods by identifying, developing, and sharing resources that support grocers and rural communities.</p> <p>https://www.ruralgrocery.org/</p>
K-State Local Food	Rebecca McMahon	<p>Building resiliency, health, and economic vitality for Kansas communities – from food production on farms to food on every plate. Connecting local food producers to markets to increase access to produce. Supporting local food programming for schools, farm owners, stores owners, and community organizations.</p> <p>https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/kansaslocalfoods/</p>
City of Wichita, Sustainability Integration Board	Ethan Kershaw	<p>Community resilience planning work designed to build up at-risk parts of the community and highlight efforts like the Healthy Corner Store Initiative. In collaboration with the Sustainability Integration Board, city staff have worked to develop a draft sustainability plan for Wichita. This plan will outline goals and recommendations for the city and community to work towards in the coming years. Having a plan will highlight community priorities, allow staff to apply for grant funding more effectively, and guide future work of the Sustainability Integration Board. Food systems will be a part of this plan.</p> <p>www.wichita.gov/sustainability</p>
Create Campaign	Cassandra Enlow	<p>Create Campaign, Inc. is a business development nonprofit that is advancing economic impact through entrepreneurship. Create Campaign and its partners are closing gaps and removing barriers of entry to ensure that entrepreneurs have access to resources and knowledge to experience the fullness of business ownership in ways that can lead to generational wealth and sustainability.</p> <p>https://www.createcampaignks.com/</p>

FOOD ACTION IN WICHITA

DIRECTORY OF FOOD RELATED PROJECTS

NXTUS	<p>Based in Wichita, we collaborate with other entrepreneur support organizations, government agencies, economic development groups, corporate innovators, and, most of all, founders and investors to positively impact and advance the economy, culture and vitality in the Heartland. NXTUS currently manages Accelerate Venture Partners, a fast-growing regional Angel investor syndicate, and NXTSTAGE Startup Programs, aimed at connecting startups to mature businesses and regional partners looking to become customers for their technologies. One of our core values is to make sure we find and support entrepreneurs from all backgrounds, meeting them where they are, with respect to their knowledge of business, innovation and technology. For our region to thrive, we want and need as many entrepreneurs as we can get. We are an organization that seeks and serves from all corners of the community, committed to providing customized support to all who have an idea and want to make it grow.</p> <p>https://www.nxtus.io/</p>
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Policy/ Advocacy

Organization	Contact	Program/ Service Description
Wichita/ Sedgwick County Food and Farm Council	Teresa Veazey	<p>The purpose of the Food and Farm Council (FFC) is to convene diverse stakeholders to advocate for an equitable, sustainable and resilient food system in the City of Wichita and Sedgwick County and provide a forum to bring together stakeholders from diverse food-related sectors for discussions and coordination of community wide efforts to improve access, affordability, stability, and availability of local, culturally appropriate, and nutritionally adequate food for all. The FFC coordinates and connects food system activities, elevating the goals of the Food System Master Plan. Both Sedgwick County (Health Department and Department of Aging and Disabilities) and the City of Wichita provide staffing for the Food and Farm Council.</p> <p>https://www.wichita.gov/896/Food-and-Farm-Council</p>
Kansas Appleseed	Jessica Kjer	<p>Kansas Appleseed is working towards a future where all Kansans have the resources they need to flourish, raise healthy families, participate fully in their communities, and benefit from fair and effective systems of justice. We are a statewide advocacy organization dedicated to the belief that Kansans, working together, can build a more thriving, inclusive, and just Kansas.</p> <p>At Kansas Appleseed, we work to eliminate the root causes of hunger by advocating for policy changes that ensure equitable access to food for all Kansans. We work to dismantle systemic barriers that contribute to food insecurity through policy solutions that ensure more Kansans can succeed.</p> <p>We create change to end hunger in Kansas by ensuring all Kansas kids have what they need to thrive. We acknowledge that schools are a critical access point for nutrition and support the child nutrition programs. We are working to increase the adoption of the Community Eligibility Provision in schools and end lunch shaming by addressing unpaid school meal fees policies. We advocate to protect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to help more Kansans put food on the table for themselves and their families.</p> <p>https://www.kansasappleseed.org/</p>

FOOD ACTION IN WICHITA

DIRECTORY OF FOOD RELATED PROJECTS

American Heart Association	<p>The AHA believes in the right to healthy food for all people to live their best lives. Nutrition security is our priority. AHA is committed to creating an equitable, sustainable food system that ensures nutrition security for all. For decades, AHA has worked on policy priorities across the food system to improve nutrition security.</p> <p>https://www.heart.org/en/get-involved/advocate/federal-priorities/nutrition</p>
Food Secure Communities Initiative	<p>The Health & Wellness Coalition is leading the Food Secure Community Initiative. Funded by the Kansas Food Action Network to engage local communities to address root causes of food insecurity. Eight coalitions in Kansas were awarded \$55,000 per year over three years. The Community Advocate Fellowship will provide the skills, coaching, and support to turn experiences with economic hardship into action. Sedgwick County residents aged 18 and older and who struggle or have struggled to meet basic needs, such as food, housing, or healthcare, and want to use their experiences to drive community change were encouraged to apply for this paid 8-month journey.</p> <p>https://www.ksfoodactionnetwork.org/food-secure-communities</p>