K-State Research & Extension Dickinson County has been compiling a list of resources to give options and points of contact for various food needs. Our grocery stores have been working tirelessly ordering, stocking, and filling requests, but if you are unable to buy food at the store, many locations throughout the county are offering assistance.

- The five DKCO school districts are providing children ages 1-18 years of age free lunch and breakfast during the week
- USDA commodities are distributed by the Abilene Food Bank and are available every other month in Abilene, Herington, and Solomon communities. The next distribution will be in mid-May. Contact the Abilene Food Pantry at 785-263-1221
- Herington’s Family Resource Exchange is providing food assistance at 785-258-3303
- Woodbine Mini Pantry is also available for persons in need at Woodbine United Methodist Church 785-257-3292
- Cedar House Food Bank is another option at 785-479-0763
- Neighbor to Neighbor Abilene, with grant funding from the Community Foundation of Dickinson County, is providing lunch and dinner meals for curbside pickup during the week. Contact is 785-200-6750

Many of these organizations are also making deliveries a part of their regular operations, simply call ahead to confirm. Now is the time to think about yourself and your family and your basic food needs and ask for help if you need it.

Lastly, the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), provides qualifying low-income households with food benefits, access to a healthy diet, and education on food preparation and nutrition. In Kansas, the program is known as the Food Assistance Program, which provides crucial support to elderly, working, unemployed, or disabled households, and could be available to you. Food assistance customers can spend their benefits to buy eligible nutritious food and even plants and seeds to grow food for their household to eat. Benefits are loaded on an EBT card and is calculated based on the household size and income.

For more information on SNAP eligibility and benefits, call 1-888-369-4777, or visit dcf.ks.gov and click on Apply for Services. Stay connected with our website: https://www.dickinson.k-state.edu/, and search “K-State Research and Extension Dickinson County” on Facebook, to stay updated on resources and programs in real time. Call our office at 785-263-2001 EXT 3 for Family Resource Management Agent Renea Riedy, or email reOLUMNS@ksu.edu with any questions, or if you know of a food resource we should add to our growing list.