



# Regional Directors Handbook

[nohungerwyo.org](http://nohungerwyo.org)

## REGIONAL DIRECTORS

### **NORTH**

Debbie Kelly

Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie counties

### **WEST**

Sierra Mitchell

Lincoln, Sublette, Teton, and Uinta counties

### **SOUTHEAST**

Tim Sheppard

Albany, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, and Platte counties

### **CENTRAL**

Greta Spencer

Converse and Natrona counties

### **NORTHEAST**

Breean Waller

Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties

### **CENTRAL WEST**

Deanna Trumble

Carbon, Fremont, and Sweetwater counties

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Dear Regional Directors,

Thank you for your willingness to serve in a capacity that brings organizations together across Wyoming. Through relationships that have been developed across the state specific to food insecurity, Wyoming Hunger Initiative has identified partners in every community. You were chosen to build networks and create a platform for communication for individuals and organizations that are united in the goal of solving food insecurity in Wyoming.

Long before I became First Lady, I learned from a friend about children in Sheridan County who struggled with food insecurity. I've never forgotten about those children, and have made it a priority to work toward a future where hunger no longer exists in our state. What I have come to realize is that where there's a hungry child, a hungry family, senior, or veteran isn't far away. As you know, Wyoming Hunger Initiative works to prevent food insecurity by increasing awareness and support for the work of local anti-hunger organizations statewide through innovative programs that connect like-minded organizations as well as funding support for local solutions.

Approximately 84,000 Wyoming residents struggle with food insecurity. There are over 200 nonprofit organizations in Wyoming dedicating part or all of their mission to combating hunger. Throughout my travels, I have met so many incredible people who are committed to feeding people and have seen so many innovative approaches to addressing hunger. I learn so much with every conversation that I have and through the regional network, we have champions from around the state who network and utilize one another's experience to do more.

I can't tell you how grateful I am for each of you and what you are doing in your local communities. It is because of people like you that Wyoming is such a special place. I look forward to working together to solve hunger in Wyoming!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennie Gordon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennie Gordon

## ABOUT WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE:

Approximately, 84,000 Wyoming residents struggle with food insecurity. Nearly 28,000 of those are children. Before launching Wyoming Hunger Initiative (WHI), First Lady Gordon made it her top priority to learn as much as possible about hunger and the existing nonprofit organizations already in the fight against hunger statewide. There are grassroots efforts in every Wyoming county dedicated to reducing hunger and combating food insecurity. Instead of reinventing the wheel, Wyoming Hunger Initiative was launched in October 2019 to work to prevent food insecurity by increasing awareness and support for the work of local anti-hunger organizations statewide.

Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of Wyoming's First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

**Nourished kids, healthy families, and thriving communities: that's the goal of Wyoming Hunger Initiative.**

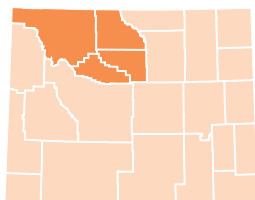
## REGIONAL DIRECTOR ROLE:

There are grassroots efforts in every Wyoming county dedicated to reducing hunger and combating food insecurity. Instead of reinventing the wheel, Wyoming Hunger Initiative was launched to work to prevent food insecurity by increasing awareness and support for the work of local anti-hunger organizations statewide.

Regional directors were identified in each of the six regions to network individuals and organizations but also to create a platform for communication where food insecurity can be solved as a state, together!

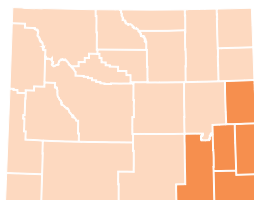
Regional directors were chosen by the First Lady to represent a region based on their awareness of food insecurity or role within their community that is directly related to food insecurity. Regional directors have been assigned multiple surrounding counties to bring a network together that can share ideas and voice concerns that may be solved on a regional level or be elevated to the Wyoming Hunger Initiative via the regional director calls that will be scheduled as needed.

## REGIONS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES:



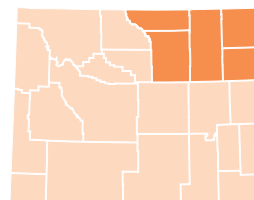
### **NORTH**

Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie



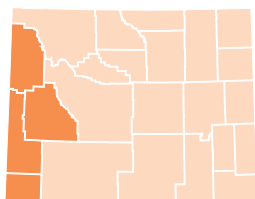
### **SOUTHEAST**

Albany, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, and Platte



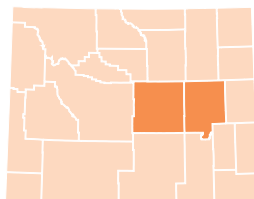
### **NORTHEAST**

Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston



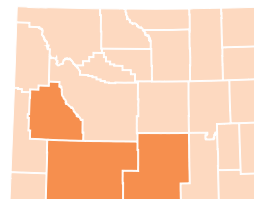
### **WEST**

Lincoln, Sublette, Teton, and Uinta



### **CENTRAL**

Converse and Natrona



### **CENTRAL WEST**

Carbon, Fremont, and Sweetwater

## WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE REGION?

Regional directors have been selected as experts within their geographic region and therefore have been charged with working closely with Wyoming Hunger Initiative to identify partners within the region ensuring that food insecurity is a topic of discussion across the state. This could include but is not limited to pantry organizers, backpack programs, nutrition specialists, school district employees, and any other volunteer that is deemed appropriate. Oftentimes, there are many champions working within a county or region to help combat food insecurity yet these champions are not aware of one another.

It is the hope of Wyoming Hunger Initiative that representatives be included from every county within the region to ensure equal representation and discussion.

## HOW OFTEN SHOULD YOU MEET?

Regional Directors have been designated because of their work in regard to fighting food insecurity or because of specific work associated with ensuring that people have access to resources to eliminate hunger. Wyoming Hunger Initiative is not looking to mandate meeting dates, regulate the number of meetings, or set the agenda for regional meetings. Instead, Wyoming Hunger Initiative is designed to offer support and to invite like-minded folks to regional calls/emails/other means of communication to share concerns or successes. Each region is going to understand what works best for them and the needs within that region. It is the hope of Wyoming Hunger Initiative to bring people together who are doing related work and allow the synergy to bring positive change to the state.

## WHAT ROLE DO THE MEETING MINUTES PLAY?

Wyoming Hunger Initiative will take minutes to ensure there is a record of conversation during any meetings held. These minutes can be shared with the regional network on a regular basis as well as passed on to Wyoming Hunger Initiative so that as projects develop on the state level, expertise can be included from across the state. These minutes allow Wyoming Hunger Initiative to be aware of the great work that is taking place around the state and as well as create a conversation piece for needs as they arise.

**An example of Meeting Minutes follows.**

## HOW OFTEN DO THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS MEET?

Wyoming Hunger Initiative staff will coordinate the regional director meetings as needed to include one in-person meeting per calendar year. First Lady Gordon will participate in these calls to ensure that challenges are heard and participation in statewide projects is available.

## SAMPLE MEETING MINUTES

### Wyoming Hunger Initiative

#### Southeast Region

February 6, 2024



#### Attendees:

Tim Sheppard, Regional Director  
Crystal Zerbe  
Linda Dixon  
Kristen-Erin Baldarez  
Pat Russell  
Danielle Mead  
Regina Dodson  
Amanda Santee  
Kelsi Goldfarb  
Ashley Garhart  
Kellie Fine  
Jess Dooley  
Josh Watanabe  
Carla Bankes  
Janelle Willert  
Erin LaBlanc  
Cheyenne Wood  
Isaac Stuphin

#### Announcements:

##### 1. LCCC Food Pantry – Ashley Garhart

- a. Coordinator of Student Engagement and Diversity – oversee the food pantry
- b. Seen a huge increase in people who are accessing the services
- c. In the fall of 2022 compared to fall 2023, 40% increase in students utilizing the food pantry
- d. Looking forward to the infrastructure grant
- e. People are using the food pantry 5 days a week

##### 2. Friday Food Bag Foundation – Amanda Santee & Isaac

- a. Work for the State of Wyoming and serve as a co vice president of the Friday Food Bag Foundation
- b. Honor to serve as president going forward
- c. Enjoyed the summit and the coordination of resources
- d. Do intend to take a back seat call on the calls but Amanda will carry on
- e. Currently preparing 1,120 bags this school year – a slight increase over the last year; however, there is great momentum
- f. Been able to increase the number of food items being provided thanks to partnerships such as the Food Bank of Wyoming and Beef for Backpacks as well as Arrow Moving and Storage and Sam's
- g. Excited about spring break bags as we head into the next month



- h. Thankful Thursday is coming up
  - i. Board is looking into strategic planning
- 3. University of Wyoming Cent\$ible Nutrition – Crystal Zerbe**
- a. Still working with Wyo Help in Goshen County and the Bread Basket and Senior Center in Newcastle
  - b. Taken on a few new projects to include the Gear Up Program at Eastern Wyoming College
  - c. Looking forward to start some seedlings in the coming weeks/months
    - i. Women’s Center
  - d. Providing recipes for the commodities to the Niobrara County Senior Center
  - e. Safety and Health Day in June for Niobrara County
- 4. UW Food Share Pantry – Jess Dooley**
- a. Hired a new pantry coordinator – starting tomorrow
  - b. Fridge having some issues but a new one is coming next week
  - c. In communication with Myriam and will hopefully begin working with the Food Bank shortly
  - d. Just continuing business as usual – approximately about 40 students/staff/faculty every day open which is 3 days per week
- 5. Guernsey Community Food Pantry – Pat Russell**
- a. Staying fairly steady throughout 2023 from the previous year and continue to stay steady
  - b. Thank Wyoming Hunger Initiative for Christmas and Thanksgiving funds – greatly appreciated by the clients
  - c. If game meat needs to be transported, Pat can help get it to Guernsey or even further if it makes sense
  - d. Volunteers stay steady and overall, everything is going well
  - e. Try to help the Wheatland Food Pantry; donated some of the Meals of Hope
  - f. Guernsey board may consider serving Wheatland but not at this time
- 6. Veterans’ Rock – Regina Dodson & Debbie**
- a. The Regional Summit was one of the highlights of the last month – thank you for the opportunity
  - b. Thank Wyoming Hunger Initiative and Harding Ranch for the donation of the beef received
    - i. Veterans get so excited when meat is available
  - c. December numbers: 5 new veterans and 64 returning veterans, 31 bags of food, 63 boxes of food
  - d. January numbers: 12 boxes and 24 bags, 36 veterans seen
  - e. Staying busy helping veterans and pleased to have a new veterans advocate coming from AARP (who is actually a veteran)
- 7. Element Church – Danielle Mead**
- a. Thank Wyoming Hunger Initiative and Kathryn Boswell who was able to deliver some game meat a couple of weeks ago
  - b. Not any significant updates – numbers ran a little low a couple of weeks in a row but then last week was back up again
  - c. Excited to team up with Friday Food Bags for spring break bags this year





**8. Boys & Girls Club of Cheyenne – Janelle Willert, Cheyenne, Kellie**

- a. Introduced everyone to Cheyenne who is the assistant
- b. Janelle is leaving the club – this is her last meeting
- c. Enjoyed connecting with everyone through the Wyoming Hunger Initiative
- d. The Summit was incredible – be able to speak to everyone beyond the screen
  - i. Connected with the LCCC Student Pantry- one of their needs is produce and the club was able to share (over 50 lbs)
  - ii. Amazing partnership as a result of the summit
- e. Received about 200 lbs of beef from Wyoming Hunger Initiative which will get the club through 6 or 7 dinners
- f. Able to serve fresh produce for every meal over Christmas break to over 100 kids thanks to the Food Bank as well as were able to give it out to families
- g. Club daily attendance numbers are going up and more kids are being served every day
- h. If enough food is available, food bags are being provided to off site locations to the best of their ability
- i. Just completed the Chili Challenge fundraiser for the club – club table received the people’s choice award
- j. February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am, the Youth of the Year will be named

**9. Laramie County Senior Center – Erin LeBlanc**

- a. Director for the senior center – 4 years
- b. Focus program for those 60 of years of age and older
  - i. Under Cheyenne Housing Authority
  - ii. Folks can eat for the suggested donation
  - iii. Satellite sites available as well (3)
- c. Serve breakfast 5 days a week at the downtown location where all the meals are cooked, lunch 7 days a week
- d. Noticed a large influx in the last couple of weeks – really seems to be the homeless population
- e. Refer clients if they don’t qualify to other resources to the best of their ability

**10. Wyoming Department of Education – Carla Bankes**

- a. Already planning for summer and we are sure everyone has seen the news about the EBT summer meals
  - i. Kids who are on SNAP or qualified will not get the extra \$120
  - ii. The state would have had to put money in and thus the timeline didn’t work
  - iii. Only feed 1/5 of the students during the summer who qualify for free and reduced during the school year
  - iv. Multiple counties in the state who do not have summer feeding at all
    1. If you know if anyone in those counties, please reach out as it would be great to get at least one site in each county
      - a. Crook, Weston, Niobrara, Johnson, Lincoln, Hot Springs, and Sublette do not have summer feeding sites



- b. Anyone who has the ability to cook and to host children is eligible (senior center, church, etc. )

**11. Needs, Inc. – Kristen-Erin Baldarez**

- a. Out of the holiday season – now facing the empty shelf season
- b. So many wonderful food drives during the holiday season
- c. Worried about food money in 2024 but means work for the pantry
- d. Combined holiday meals – 700 households served + 150 people who didn't qualify for the traditional meal box but they got a gift card
- e. Service 12,193 requests for TFAP in 2023
  - i. Monthly food box program: 3,704 in 2023
  - ii. 1,454 walking bags in 2023
  - iii. 13,097 requests for clothing
  - iv. 69 families that were adopted for the holidays vs. 29 last year
- f. January – really enjoyed the summit and meeting with so many folks who are normally seen on the screen
- g. Running very low on meat right now
- h. Mobile pantry services to Albin and Burns on hold during January and February so that stock can be replenished but still going to Pine Bluffs to the senior center
- i. January:
  - i. 127 walking bags last month
  - ii. 1,349 TFAP requests
  - iii. 329 monthly food boxes
- j. Seeking sponsorships for annual Firecracker 5k in July

**12. Laramie Interfaith – Josh Watanabe**

- a. Big increase in people coming in for help
- b. 38 applications for rent assistance in 4 days this month
- c. Everyone makes their donations through the holidays and then things dry up
- d. Been getting chips and Fritos through the Food Bank – work with the school district (school success liaison) to give them hundreds of pounds of produce to distribute through the school
  - i. Increased the traffic into this staff persons office and reduced the stigma in terms of asking for help
  - ii. Increase in kids willing to take the Friday Food Bags available

**13. Highlands Presbyterian Church – Linda Dixon**

- a. Glad to hear that Needs needs meat because the church is doing some specific drives – something that the church can help with possibly
- b. Targeting breakfast bars and soup for Superbowl Sunday
  - i. Helping the Welcome Mat – on Campbell
- c. Bought a freezer and microwave for two modelers on the Wind River Reservation
  - i. There was not a shelter on the Reservation and an overnight resource was needed



- ii. Funds came from the Hunger Action fundraiser
- d. Working with the Wind River Food Sovereignty Project
  - i. Deliver 100 bags of potting soil for their gardens in May

**14. University of Wyoming Cent\$ible Nutrition – Kelsi Goldfarb**

- i. Were unable to make it to the summit – unfortunate but nice to read through the notes
- ii. Programs being offered at LCCC main office
  - 1. Starting a new class at the main senior center downtown
- iii. Working with the VOA program in town that used to be Peak Wellness

**Not in attendance:**

1. *University of Wyoming Center for Student Involvement - Marty Martinez*
  - a. *We are back around the 700 student level for this semester. Last year we served a total of 1500 meals for our student. We plan to ratchet that up to around the 2200 level, and so far, we are seeing a larger number of students joining our lunches and dinners, so we think we are on track to meet that goal.*
  - b. *While we do not have space for a “food pantry”, the VSC provides free snacks and drinks to students in our Center. While we continue offering snacks, we have also included more ‘grab and go’ style foods - sandwich items; frozen sandwiches, burritos, and meals; fresh fruit. The VSC often provides foods for stews, roasts, macaroni and cheese, lasagna, etc., that can be made into meals for the students.*
  - c. *The VSC purchased crock pots and panini machines to encourage and offer ‘meal-time’ gatherings where student veterans can help to create the meals for themselves and others.*
  - d. *At the conclusion of the fall semester, we provide a free lunch on each day of Finals Week. We served 230 meals to students during that week. We also have a donor that provides funding to the VSC to host a “Christmas Dinner” for student veterans in Laramie who were unable to travel home for the holiday. We hosted 42 veterans and their families at this year’s dinner at Perkins Restaurant.*

**Wyoming Hunger Initiative Announcements:**

- Game meat will be available in the coming month thanks to a herd management project – more information available soon
- Infrastructure grants open mid-March: eligible for up to \$5,000 through an application process
- Grow a Little Extra grants are open now for community and organization gardens – visit [nohungerwyo.org/grow](http://nohungerwyo.org/grow)
- Hearts for Hunger is going on now and the breakfast/proclamation is on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30am at the Wyoming State Capitol – Join us!

**Next meeting:** March 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm

## WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE TALKING POINTS:

Regional directors will be part of Wyoming Hunger Initiative and represent the initiative on the regional level. There are often questions about Wyoming Hunger Initiative in terms of the overall mission or long term goals. It is never the hope of Wyoming Hunger Initiative to reinvent the wheel; thus, the introduction of regional directors to assist with problem solving and communication on the regional level.

**Please refer to these talking points as needed for information about Wyoming Hunger Initiative.**

- There are grassroots efforts in every Wyoming county dedicated to reducing hunger and combating food insecurity.
- Instead of reinventing the wheel, Wyoming Hunger Initiative was launched in October 2019 to work to prevent food insecurity by increasing awareness and support for the work of local anti-hunger organizations statewide.
- Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor’s Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
- Approximately 84,000 Wyoming residents struggle with food insecurity. Nearly 26,000 of those are children; no county in the state is immune.
- Research has shown that children who suffer from food insecurity - even one in their lifetime demonstrate poorer overall health 10-15 years later. Food insecurity has an impact on academic achievement, graduation rates, and economic well-being.
- Wyoming Hunger Initiative launched an online clearinghouse to help families struggling with food access and insecurity in Wyoming. Visit [www.nohungerwyo.org/county-resources](http://www.nohungerwyo.org/county-resources)
- The website offers a list of available resources on a county-by-county basis, research on the impacts of hunger to children, families, and communities, as well as examples of communities who are feeding their own in innovative ways.
- First Lady Jennie Gordon selected the Wyoming Governor’s Residence Foundation Board of Directors in 2019 based on experience, geographic location, and dedication to service in Wyoming and beyond. The board has a two-fold mission: to support projects that enhance the Governor’s Residence, and to support the mission of Wyoming Hunger Initiative through volunteerism, advocacy, and fundraising.
- **Nourished kids, healthy families and thriving communities: that’s the goal of Wyoming Hunger Initiative.**

- **Wyoming Hunger Initiative includes the following program areas:**
  1. **Wyoming Hunger Initiative Grants** are intended to support infrastructure and longevity of anti-hunger organizations as well as long-term sustainable solutions.
  2. **Food from the Field** is a partnership between hunters, processors, and participating agencies to streamlining donation of game meat to food pantries statewide.
  3. **Grow A Little Extra** is a partnership with the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program and Master Gardeners encouraging community organizations and individuals to grow extra produce for those in need.
  4. **Food from the Farm + Ranch** has three programs for keeping locally-grown protein in local communities where it can make the most impact on food insecurity: **Livestock Donations**, **Beef for Backpacks**, and **Fair to Fork**.
  5. **Angel Accounts:** Most school districts report that school meal debt is growing. Donations to Angel Accounts will help turn the tide so children can focus on learning, not debt.

## RESOURCES:

**Wyoming Hunger Initiative One-Pagers** (Samples follow on page 14)

### **Wyoming Hunger Initiative Website:**

- nohungerwyo.org
- Partner Resources Page
  - » Forms and program overviews
- County Resources <https://www.nohungerwyo.org/county-resources>
  - » Find a local anti-hunger organization

### **Wyoming Hunger Initiative Newsletter:**

- Comes out once a month
- Visit nohungerwyo.org to subscribe



Anti-hunger warriors are making a difference, one need at a time.



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Scan to learn more about Wyoming Hunger Initiative's Infrastructure Grants.

- **Wyoming Hunger Initiative Infrastructure Grants** are intended to support infrastructure and longevity of anti-hunger organizations as well as long-term, sustainable solutions to food insecurity across the state.
- Grant funding can be used for equipment to expand capacity, long-term projects that promote self-sufficiency and increase food security, solutions that encourage systematic change with regard to local food access, and educational programs.
- **Infrastructure Grants** open annually in March, are reviewed by the Wyoming Hunger Initiative Grants committee in May, and final decisions are announced in June.
- Wyoming Hunger Initiative knows there is no such thing as a one-size-fits-all solution to hunger and instead supports the inspiring anti-hunger warriors who fight every day to find the best answer for their community.
- Grant funding also comes from the Wyoming Hunger Initiative Hunger Champions Circle, which is a team of dedicated ambassadors who serve as catalysts in the ongoing mission to end food insecurity in Wyoming.
- Wyoming Hunger Initiative is committed to awarding grants in every Wyoming county, because hunger does not discriminate.
- **How can you help? Donate.** Funds earmarked for infrastructure grants allow greater opportunities for innovative projects, local solutions, and the ability to create efficiencies.
- Visit [nohungerwyo.org/grants](http://nohungerwyo.org/grants)

In addition to **Infrastructure Grants**, there are many Wyoming Hunger Initiative **programs, campaigns, and events** that benefit those in need in Wyoming. None of this could be accomplished without the efforts of statewide **anti-hunger organizations** and the generosity of our **sponsors, volunteers, and donors**.

Together, we can end hunger in Wyoming. [nohungerwyo.org](http://nohungerwyo.org)



WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE

5001 Central Ave, Cheyenne WY 82009 • (307) 777-7398

Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.



Let's share the bounty of Wyoming with those who need it most.



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Scan for more information, including the list of approved processors.

- **Food from the Field** brings hunters, the Wyoming Game & Fish department, the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, processors, and local food pantries together to safely and efficiently streamline donations of game to distribute to local families in need.
- Wyoming's majestic landscapes offer hunters some of the best opportunities in the world; **Food from the Field** enables them to share that bounty by donating all or part of their meat to participating local processors who in turn will prepare it for local anti-hunger organizations to distribute it to our neighbors in need.
- All deer, elk, and moose will undergo appropriate CWD testing to ensure safety prior to entering the food pantry system.
- Hunters are invited to make a financial contribution to cover the cost of processing if they're able; Wyoming Hunger Initiative will cover the remaining cost thanks to the sale of Game & Fish Commissioner Tags.
- All game donated through **Food from the Field** must be processed by a participating processor. The participating processors are listed on the website.
- **How can you help? Hunt. Donate. Nourish.**
- Visit [nohungerwyo.org/field](http://nohungerwyo.org/field)

In addition to **Food from the Field** and the other core programs, there are more Wyoming Hunger Initiative **programs, campaigns, and events** that benefit those in need in Wyoming. None of this could be accomplished without the efforts of statewide **anti-hunger organizations** and the generosity of our **sponsors, volunteers, and donors**.

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They say gardening feeds the soul. It can also feed neighbors in need.



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Scan to learn more about Grow A Little Extra.

Calling All Gardeners! We invite you to join us this summer to **Grow A Little Extra**.

- **Grow A Little Extra** is a partnership with the University of Wyoming Extension's CentSible Nutrition Program (CNP) and Master Gardener Program, encouraging community organizations and individuals to grow extra produce for neighbors facing food insecurity.
  - Increased access to fresh produce in Wyoming is a critical tool in the fight against food insecurity. **Grow A Little Extra** is helping to remove existing barriers one vegetable at a time. Join the fight!
  - Get started by picking up (free!) seeds at your local UW Extension Office. Six varieties of seeds are available and were selected for their ability to grow in Wyoming's climate.
  - Be an anti-hunger warrior with two green thumbs! Plant your free seeds or your favorite crop. Come harvest time, donate some of your produce back! Produce donations can be dropped off at your local UW Extension office.
- About the Partners**
- CNP educators are located in UW Extension offices and will help you with weighing your produce donation and matching it to local anti-hunger organizations for distribution. In addition to this work, CNP educators serve their local communities by teaching nutrition and cooking skills to help individuals with limited resources eat healthy on a budget as well as by working with local partners on projects that help increase access to nutritious foods.
  - The University of Wyoming Extension's Master Gardener program shares horticulture resources, promotes backyard gardens and community gardens, and educates backyard gardeners and specialty crop producers throughout Wyoming. They are an excellent resource for questions, support, and even to round up volunteers to help in community gardens.
- How can you help?**
- 1) Set aside space in your garden (or establish a new community garden) to grow fresh produce for local food pantries and agencies.
  - 2) Take good care of your garden all summer.
  - 3) Deliver your extra produce to the local UW Extension office in your county for weighing and distribution!
- Visit [nohungerwyo.org/grow](http://nohungerwyo.org/grow)

In addition to **Grow A Little Extra** and the other core programs, there are more Wyoming Hunger Initiative **programs, campaigns, and events** that benefit those in need in Wyoming. None of this could be accomplished without the efforts of statewide **anti-hunger organizations** and the generosity of our **sponsors, volunteers, and donors**.

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Think a hog can't change the world. Think again.



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Scan to learn more about Wyoming Hunger Initiative's Fair-to-Fork program.

- **Fair to Fork** was launched under the **Food from the Farm + Ranch** banner to utilize Wyoming resources to support local anti-hunger organizations statewide.
- Sources of high-quality protein are notoriously expensive and difficult to procure for local anti-hunger organizations.
- In partnership with University of Wyoming Extension, 4-H, and FFA, **Fair to Fork** works to purchase secondary hogs through a lottery selection, from every county in Wyoming.
- Wyoming Hunger Initiative will purchase the pig for \$750, ensure the meat is processed by a USDA or state-inspected participating facility, and then coordinate with the 4-H or FFA member to donate it to a local anti-hunger organization in the county of origin.
- Selected participants are honored with a plaque at the Swine Show at the Wyoming State Fair each year by Governor Gordon and First Lady Jennie. They are also invited to ride in the parade wagon at the Wyoming State Fair.
- **How can I help? Spread the word** to your local community about this opportunity to support local anti-hunger organizations and youth development.
- Visit [nohungerwyo.org/fair-to-fork](http://nohungerwyo.org/fair-to-fork)

In addition to **Fair-to-Fork**, there are many Wyoming Hunger Initiative **programs, campaigns, and events** that benefit those in need in Wyoming. None of this could be accomplished without the efforts of statewide **anti-hunger organizations** and the generosity of our **sponsors, volunteers, and donors**.

Together, we can end hunger in Wyoming. [nohungerwyo.org](http://nohungerwyo.org)



WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE

5001 Central Ave, Cheyenne WY 82009 • (307) 777-7398

Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

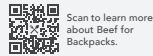
## Growing kids need protein. Wyoming has high-quality, local solutions.

### Beef for Backpacks

#### OUR PARTNERS



#### LEARN MORE



Scan to learn more about Beef for Backpacks.

- **Beef for Backpacks** was launched under the Food from the Farm + Ranch banner to utilize Wyoming resources to support the work of weekend food bag programs that make a real impact for children statewide.
- Every cell in the body is made of protein, which makes this major nutrient essential for healthy growth and development.
- Weekend food bag programs provide meals for students on the weekend who may not otherwise have access to food. Protein is notoriously expensive and often difficult for these anti-hunger organizations to procure.
- **Beef for Backpacks** provides locally raised protein in a portable form for each participating child every weekend for the entire school year.

#### About the Partners

- 307 Meat Company in Laramie has and continues to do all of the processing of the beef donated to this program.
- Wyoming Stock Growers Association seeks out beef donations to the program through their network.
- Wyoming Beef Council and Multivac provide all of the labeling for these snack sticks.

**How can you help?** Donate a beef. Or make a contribution to help with the processing costs of the beef sticks.

Visit [nohungerwyo.org/backpacks](http://nohungerwyo.org/backpacks)

In addition to **Beef for Backpacks** and the other core programs, there are more Wyoming Hunger Initiative programs, campaigns, and events that benefit those in need in Wyoming. None of this could be accomplished without the efforts of statewide **anti-hunger organizations** and the generosity of our **sponsors, volunteers, and donors.**

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**2,880** beef snack stick packages  
**80** kids for **36** weeks

### Wyoming's BEEF Needs

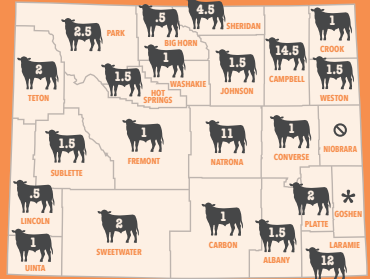
**5,488** TOTAL KIDS SERVED\*  
**205,467** PACKAGES\*\*  
**= 65** beef



Beef for Backpacks

\* Number of kids per week  
\*\* One package contains one beef snack stick, total weight 1 oz.

### BEEF Breakdown by County



⊖ Doesn't have a weekend food bag program \* Doesn't currently have an agreement in place to participate in Beef for Backpacks

### Participating Weekend BEEF Food Programs

Albany	1.5	ACSD #1 Backpack Program
Big Horn	4.5	Totes of Hope - Basin
Campbell	14.5	Blessings in a Backpack
Carbon	1	Boys & Girls Club of Carbon County Totes of Hope
Converse	2.5	Boys & Girls Club of Douglas TOH
Crook	1	Sundance BIB, Hullett BIB, Moorcroft BIB
Fremont	1	Friday Back Pack Program
Hot Springs	1.5	People for People Backpack Program
Johnson	1.5	Johnson County Friends Feeding Friends
Laramie	1.5	Friday Food Bag Foundation
Lincoln	1.5	Lincoln County School District #2 Education Foundation
Natrona	1.1	Wyoming Food for Thought Project
Park	2.5	Food 4 Kids, Backpack Blessings of Powell
Platte	2	Food 4 Weekends, Queensway Totes of Hope
Sheridan	4.5	The Food Group, Inc.
Sublette	1.5	Community Bak-Pak Program
Sweetwater	1.5	Weekend Backpack Meal Program, Food Bank of Sweetwater City TOH
Teton	2	Hole Food Rescue
Uinta	1	Mountain View and Lyman Backpack Program
Washakie	1	Washakie County School District #1, Blessings in a Backpack
Weston	1.5	Newcastle Totes of Hope

Don't see your county listed? Contact your local weekend food bag program to get started. TOH = Totes of Hope BIB = Blessings in a Backpack

## 86,000 Wyoming residents struggle with food insecurity. That's not OK with us.

Wyoming Hunger Initiative has a simple **MISSION**: to end hunger in Wyoming.

We work to prevent food insecurity by increasing awareness and support for the work of local anti-hunger organizations statewide. Nourished kids, healthy families, and thriving communities: that's the goal of Wyoming Hunger Initiative.

#### Wyoming Hunger Initiative PROGRAMS:



Wyoming Hunger Initiative **Infrastructure Grants** are intended to support infrastructure and longevity of anti-hunger organizations as well as long-term, sustainable solutions.



**Food from the Field** is a partnership between hunters, processors, and participating agencies to streamline donation of game meat to food pantries statewide.



**Grow A Little Extra** is a partnership with the CentSible Nutrition Program and Master Gardeners encouraging community organizations and individuals to grow extra produce for those in need.



**Food from the Farm + Ranch** has three programs for keeping locally-grown protein in local communities where it can make the most impact on food insecurity: **Livestock Donations, Beef for Backpacks and Fair to Fork.**



Most Wyoming school districts report that school meal debt is growing. Donations to **Angel Accounts** will help turn the tide so children can focus on learning, not debt.

In addition to the core programs, there are more Wyoming Hunger Initiative programs, campaigns, and events that benefit those in need in Wyoming. None of this could be accomplished without the efforts of statewide **anti-hunger organizations** and the generosity of our **sponsors, volunteers, and donors.**

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## **WYOMING HUNGER INITIATIVE**

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2024

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