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For eleven years, the North Dakota Community Action Sportsmen Against Hunger program has grown and changed with the needs of our state. Food pantries continue to be in need of healthy sources of protein, particularly fresh meat. Perishable items are often the least donated, yet they are the most needed for preparing healthy meals.

Food insecurity is alive and well in North Dakota, but we have the ability to help the state become the first in the nation to have food security for all residents. The Sportsmen Against Hunger program is proud to brings together willing hunters, happy to donate, and those who need nutritious protein sources the most.

We are proud of all the program has accomplished in 10 years and hope to continue helping those in our community.

Martha Moe
Programs Specialist
North Dakota Community Action Partnership
Sportsmen Against Hunger has partnered with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department to be part of a pilot project to accept Canada geese throughout the regular winter season. This has been a very exciting opportunity for growth of the goose donation portion of our program.

Due to decline in animal populations, donations of geese from the pilot program have helped minimize the loss of meat from other wild game to food pantries.

In 2015, a total of 622 geese, around 550 pounds, were donated. Next year, we hope to increase awareness of the goose donation program through social media, news releases, and promotional materials to ensure that high quality meat is getting to the tables of low income families.

Donations of venison were accepted throughout bow and rifle season. The program received donations of 34 deer, for a total of just under 1,500 pounds of meat that was distributed to food pantries across the state.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department has announced a 21% increase in the deer population from last year, so we expect to see our numbers increase in 2016.
ELK REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

We have had the honor of partnering with Theodore Roosevelt National Park in their elk reduction project since 2011. Through this partnership, the program has received thousands of pounds of elk, bison, and moose burger each year. This year, the elk population was lower than expected, resulting in the decision to hold off on an elk reduction project until next year.

The National Park Service began their elk reduction efforts in 2010 with an elk population over 1,200. After a handful of effective reduction efforts and successful hunting seasons, the population is now at the lower end of the park’s population objective of 100-400 elk.

Because there is always uncertainty associated with counting wildlife, the park will have to proceed cautiously with the next phase of the project, meaning we will likely see drastic changes in the number of donated elk.

TOTAL DONATIONS

In 2015, the Sportsmen Against Hunger program facilitated the distribution of a grand total of 2,000 pounds of wild game to food pantries across the state.

The program did see a decline in wild game donations for the 2015 season, however, we expect that the elk reduction project will help in next year’s numbers.
Stanley High School—Stanley
S and E Meats—Granville
Engebretson Processing—Mohall
Myers Meats and Specialties—Parshall
Matern Family Meats—Bottineau
Drake COOP Creamery—Drake
The Meat Shop—Berthold
Blom’s Processing—Minol
K and E Meats—Cando
Goldade’s Processing—Devils Lake
Hickory Hut—Langdon
Weber Meats—Reynolds
Randy’s Backyard Smokehouse—Park River
Fairmount Locker—Fairmount

Casselton Cold Storage—Casselton
Sundale Colony—Milnor
Maple Valley Locker Inc.—Enderlin
Manock Meats—Great Bend
Reister Meats and Catering, Inc—Streeter
Millers Fresh Foods—Cooperstown
Valley Meats—Valley City
The Butcher Block—Oakes
Warehouse Grocery—Harvey
Edgeley Meat Processing Plant—Edgeley
Hazen Meats, Inc.—Hazen
The Butcher Block—Oakes
Butcher Block Meats—Mandan
West Dakota Meats—Bismarck
Bosch’s Meat Market—Linton

Double R Meats—Carson
2K Meats and More—Beulah
Dakota Packing—Hettinger
Halliday Custom Meats—Halliday
Community Action Agencies

REGION I
Williston
120 Washing Avenue
Williston, ND 58801
701-572-8191

REGION II
Minot
2020 8th Ave SE
Minot, ND 58701
701-839-7221

REGION III
Devils Lake
223 4th Street
Devils Lake, ND 58301
701-662-6500

REGION IV
Grand Forks
1013 North 5th Street
Grand Forks, ND 58203
701-746-5431

REGION V
Fargo
3233 South University Dr
Fargo, ND 58104
701-232-2452

REGION VI
Jamestown
PO Box 507
Jamestown, ND 58401
701-252-1821

REGION VII
Bismarck
2105 Lee Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58504
701-258-2240

REGION VIII
Dickinson
202 East Villard
Dickinson, ND 58601
701-227-0131
We send a hearty thank you to all of the processors who accept donations for the program, many of whom have been participating since the program’s inception.

Hunters

Thank you to the hunters across North Dakota that make the extra effort to ensure that no meat goes to waste, and gets into the hands of those that need it most.

Sponsors

A big thank you to all of our sponsors, including Pheasants for the Future, Grand Forks County Wildlife Federation, Sheldon Wildlife Club, Red River Area Sportsman’s Club, Basin United Way of Williston, as well as the Alex Stern Foundation, Walmart, North Dakota Community Foundation, and the Community Service Block Grant.

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Thank you for your on-going support of the program, and advocating for the program with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service.