

CCA Regional Food Bank 2010 SE Chokeberry Ave. Warrenton, OR 97146 503-861-FOOD

## CCA Regional Food Bank Intentional Production

## Fish and Game Recovery Program

The mission to end hunger and hunger insecurity isn't just about filling mouths and bellies, it runs much deeper. We believe we have a human connection to people in need, giving us a morale obligation to help.

Obviously, help consists of the safe, efficient distribution of physical resources, but also the foresight and ability to the expand those resources through effective methods of intentional production. At CCA Regional Food Bank in Clatsop County we feel confident in our ability to distribute those physical resources and we continue to fine tune our commitment to "Intentional Production" of fresh, whole foods through multiple processes. In 2010 we acquired a food processing license and a non-slaughter meat processing license through the Oregon Department of Agriculture. These licenses allow us to process donations of fresh and fresh frozen meat and fish products.

Over the course of the 2011 and 2012 fishing and hunting seasons CCA Regional Food Bank received and processed 35,433 gross pounds of fresh fish and game through our food bank strategic initiative of "Intentional Production". We worked closely with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon State Police and local fisheries in the recovery of hatchery, bycatch or confiscated fresh fish and game to supply protein products to all meal sites and emergency food box pantries within our local Food Bank Network. The donated food value created by in-house production was in excess of \$33,494.00. Our small Food Bank is not in a position to purchase this amount of fresh fish and meat product. Procuring this product would not have been possible without the collaborations established with the State of Oregon government agencies and fishing industry.

The pounds collected in 2013 have already exceeded 12,500 pounds. This is primarily due to a recently completed a processing and repackaging project resulting from a donation of bulk fish. The donation consisted of halibut, true cod, and ling cod originally processed into 50 pound bulk cases. Our Food Bank Network agencies were unable to accept and redistribute this product to needy families in the original condition. With the help of trained volunteers and a sanitary environment, the product was portioned and repackaged into consumer size units, suitable to distribute to hungry families throughout Oregon by the Oregon Food Bank Network. The calculated value of this donation, based on current retail pricing, was in excess of \$131,000.00.

The 2013 Fishing season will soon begin to produce donations of bycatch fish. This year, like in 2011 we will see a strong Pink Salmon run in the Pacific Ocean and the Columbia River. Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife predicts upwards of 52 million Pink Salmon. This means there is a potential to receive thousands of pounds of this product. The successful introduction and passing of House Bill 4068 (the Bycatch Bill) will now allow the food banking industry to take advantage of very large donations of this product, which in the past we refused due to our inability to receive and process such large amounts. Rather than product being dumped back into the ocean, it can be taken to a commercial fishery and processed for the food bank network in throughout the State of Oregon.

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## Facts at a Glance

- 2010 -CCA Regional Food Bank, recognizing the shortage of fresh food entering the food banking system embarked on an initiative of "Intentional Production".
- 2010 We designed and equipped a food processing and repackaging room in our new Food Bank facility.
- 2010 We acquired food processing and non-slaughter meat processing licenses from the Oregon Department of Agriculture.
- 2010 We began to develop a stronger relationship with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding the procurement of fish and game through donations. These wildlife donations were processed on-site at our Food Bank or in local fishery facilities.
- 2011 2012 Fishing and hunting seasons:

35,433 gross pounds collected. 23,024 pounds went into the frying pans of hungry Oregonians. \$33, 494.00 in donated food value (based on average value of donated food).

• 2013 - Fishing and hunting season:

12,567 pounds have been received.

12,324 pounds went into the frying pans of hungry Oregonians. A large donation of processed fillets resulted in 100 % net yield. Calculated retail value of the product was \$131,631.40

- All fish and game is packaged into approximately one pound packages, suitable for a family of two. For larger families, multiple packages are received.
- All game is ground and packaged into one pound packages.

We feel all clients understand preparation methods for ground meat. It also creates a fairness for all clients.

- All packages carry an product label authorizing the client to have possession of the product with out an individual fishing or hunting license.
- Packaged product are shipped to Part6ner Agencies in 35 pound master cases.
- All master cases have information enclosed authorizing the Partner Agency to redistribute to client households, or in the case of a congregate meal site agency, to prepare the food for on-site consumption.

2013 Halibut, True Cod and Ling Cod Processing / Repackaging Project CCA Regional Food Bank









