

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SNAP Back Against Hunger Returns to Help Local Families Make Ends Meet

SALINA, Kan. — Salina Area United Way is bringing SNAP Back Against Hunger back to the community on Tuesday, November 17, from 4–8 p.m. at Tony’s Pizza Events Center, which is generously donating space for the event. This space will provide a central gathering place where local families can access food, essential items and community resources.

SNAP Back Against Hunger began in 2025 as a community response to disruptions and uncertainty surrounding federal SNAP benefits. Local partners recognized that delayed and reduced benefits could leave families struggling to put food on the table, and the community came together to help. The inaugural event served approximately 350 households and distributed nearly 15,000 pounds of food.

While the circumstances that prompted the first SNAP Back Against Hunger have changed, the need in our community remains.

Food insecurity continues to affect families, while rising costs of groceries and everyday necessities make it increasingly difficult for many households to make ends meet. Some families may receive assistance but find that benefits do not stretch far enough, while others may not qualify for that assistance but still struggle to cover basic needs.

“SNAP Back Against Hunger started because our community saw families facing an immediate gap in food assistance,” said Christina Small, Executive Director of Salina Area United Way. “This year, we’re bringing it back because that need didn’t disappear. Families are still feeling the impact of rising costs, and we want to make sure our community has a way to come together, support one another and help make things a little easier for families who are struggling.”

More Than Food

Families attending SNAP Back Against Hunger will receive groceries and have the opportunity to connect with local organizations and resources that may be able to assist with other needs.

Hygiene products will be available while supplies last. Hats and gloves will also be available while supplies last, thanks to Salina Shares.

Salina Area United Way is also sponsoring Be the Village Boutique to help provide children with warm, quality clothing at no cost to families attending the event. Additional details about clothing availability will be shared closer to the event as inventory is finalized.

A Community Effort

SNAP Back Against Hunger is made possible through collaboration among community partners, local organizations, donors, businesses, food collection sites and volunteers. Each plays a role in bringing resources together for local families.

“Food insecurity isn’t always just about whether someone has enough food today,” Small said. “When a household is spending more of its income on groceries, that money isn’t available for diapers, soap, clothing, utilities, transportation and all of the other things families need. SNAP Back Against Hunger is about helping families with some of those immediate needs and reminding them that their community is here for them.”

Help Make SNAP Back Against Hunger Possible

There are several ways community members, businesses, churches and organizations can take part:

Volunteer: Help distribute food, assist families, organize donations and support cleanup efforts.

[Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Host a Food Collection Site: Collect shelf-stable food items in your workplace, church, business or organization. Donated items will be distributed to participating families alongside groceries purchased for the event.

[Become a Collection Site](#)

Provide Community Resources: Local organizations can participate in the event and connect families with available resources and services.

[Resource Organization Sign-Up](#)

Families: Families are encouraged to preregister for the event.

[Family Preregistration](#)

From food donors and collection sites to volunteers, resource providers and community partners, SNAP Back Against Hunger is possible because people and organizations across our community are willing to come together to help their neighbors.

SNAP Back Against Hunger

Tuesday, November 17, 2026

4–8 p.m.

Tony’s Pizza Events Center

Salina, Kansas

For more information, contact Salina Area United Way at 785-827-1312 or

sauw@unitedwaysalina.org.

About Salina Area United Way

Salina Area United Way works to strengthen North Central Kansas by uniting people and resources to build resilient, thriving communities. Through partnerships, programs and community investments, SAUW works alongside local organizations and community members to address needs and create opportunities across the region.

United is the Way.