

Community Service Reflection

The community service that I chose to do was volunteer at South Plains Food Bank. We assisted packing boxes with various dry goods and miscellaneous items. This included various food items such as cans of soup, bags of beans and lentils, cereal, condiments, etc. We lined up and assembled boxes to distribute to the needy citizens of Lubbock and the surrounding communities. There were shopping carts staged with each item to assist in streamline the packing process. Once we used up the items, we would refill our shopping carts for the next cycle of boxes.

South Plains Food Bank has been in the community for over 40 years. They provide food to the community of Lubbock and many surrounding communities, including Plainview. They are able to get volunteers with trucks, load up boxes, and deliver to areas in need.

It was pointed out that South Plain Food Bank used to receive canned goods from others in the community. However, there was a lot of inconsistencies with this. Not to mention, a lot of people were donating expired foods or cans that they didn't want. It was taking a lot of manpower to sort through everything, remove expired food, and getting everything to fit just right in the boxes. Now, they get donations from surrounding grocery stores. They also get federal funding. They use the federal funding to purchase all similar items to combat the inconsistencies within the boxes and are able to provide everyone with very similar items.

After this experience, I didn't realize that there were so many needy families in this area. I have learned to be more thankful for what I have. After talking to some of the full time employees from the food bank, it could just as easily be me needing services. I was overwhelmed with a profound sense of satisfaction from giving back to those that are less fortunate.

