



News Release

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New Food Bank Position To Focus On Operations, Analytics

Sikeston, MO (June 29, 2020) – Southeast Missouri Food Bank has added Gratten Allen to its staff in the newly created role of operations coordinator.

Allen, of Sikeston, will assist with operations and distribution functions in the food bank warehouse and will serve as a liaison to the administrative side of operations by working with the Development Department to identify sources of food and funding to support ongoing operations. He also will coordinate warehouse deliverables to meet grant requirements and analyze trends to ensure equitable resource distribution across the food bank's 16-county service area.

"Gratten has worked extensively in data collection, analytics and planning so he will be an integral part of the important task of tracking operations to ensure needs are met," said food bank Chief Executive Officer Joey Keys.

Allen has been working with the food bank since April as a temporary employee placed by Manpower through a Covid-19 Response grant from Missouri Foundation for Health. He is a graduate of Sikeston High School and has a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Business from Southeast Missouri State University. His previous work experience includes positions as an agronomist at Ducks Unlimited, greenhouse manager at Midwest Organics and field scout for AgDynamic.

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About Southeast Missouri Food Bank

Southeast Missouri Food Bank provides food to more than 140 member agencies including food pantries, soup kitchens, domestic violence and homeless shelters, senior citizen programs, children's programs, and non-profit rehabilitation facilities. The food bank's 16-county coverage area includes Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Dunklin, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Ste. Genevieve, Stoddard, and Wayne counties.

The food bank is affiliated with Feeding America, the nation's largest food bank network and has received the highest possible rating from Charity Navigator, attesting to its adherence to best practices. Those interested in helping can do so by making a tax-deductible contribution, donating food, or scheduling a time to volunteer. Visit SemoFoodBank.org for more information.