# Working together to nourish the nation





#### Who We Are

ACDA is a non-profit, professional trade association, devoted to improving the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Commodity Food Distribution Program. By forming a unique alliance of agriculture, industry, government, and community members, ACDA has the advantage of a multi-faceted approach to resource development and education for all stakeholder groups. ACDA is dedicated to the growth and vitality of the USDA Food Distribution Programs and serves as an active and unified presence throughout the food distribution community.

# Who are the ACDA members?

ACDA members include association agencies that distribute USDA commodities; agricultural organizations; recipient agencies, such as schools; industry groups, such as food manufactures and processors; and allied organizations, such as non-profit anti-hunger groups.

#### What We Do

**Serve** as the collective voice for policy decisions impacting food distribution programs. We work hard to strengthen, identify, monitor, and address issues that impact USDA Food Distribution programs.

Affect improvements in legislative, regulatory, and policy issues that affect your programs by direct involvement in federal legislation.

**Strive** for excellence and transparency in agricultural trade by providing helpful resources and clarity on a range of topics for school food service authorities, cooperatives, food banks, pantries, soup kitchens, and other community agencies nationwide.

Connect industry leaders and a diverse group of members by providing networking and service opportunities designed to establish and strengthen relationships, including our Annual Conference that boasts more than 60 educational sessions and numerous opportunities to connect.

**Provide** a library of USDA forms and "hot of the press" informational updates that support members day to day work.

# The 4 Corner Stones of ACDA













# **Agriculture**

ACDA is devoted to working together to nourish the nation from our farms to the market. Our Agricultural Commodity Markets aim to reduce the opposition of views on the impacts of agricultural trade on food security. We strive for excellence and transparency by providing helpful resources and clarity on a range of topics.



"ACDA has given me the opportunity to fully understand the USDA Foods process. As a result, I am able to take full advantage of USDA foods, efficiently manage entitlement and better serve the students in my district."





## **Industry**

ACDA is dedicated to the growth and vitality of the USDA Food Distribution Programs and creating an active and unified presence throughout the food distribution community. ACDA Industry Members gain access to industry leaders and members, networking and educational opportunities, legislative and advocacy support, library of USDA forms and "hot off the press" informational updates.



"I would not be as successful as I am without the networking, learning, and mentoring I received from ACDA members."

Mike Birkmeyer, Maryland State Department of Education, Member since 2006.





#### Government

ACDA is the collective voice for policy decisions impacting food distribution programs. We work hard to strengthen, identify, monitor, and address issues that impact USDA Food Distribution programs. ACDA has and will continue to affect improvements in legislative, regulatory, and policy issues that affect your programs.



"Membership in ACDA has been invaluable to my growth as a school nutrition professional. Meeting with professionals in your industry is a rewarding way to share common interests or share engaging conversations about your field. I can easily say that without the support of ACDA I would not be nearly as successful with our commodity programs."





## **Community**

ACDA provides resources for communities nationwide. The success of the ACDA Community depends upon local school and household (TEFAP, CSFP) agencies participating in Food Distribution Programs. Our mission is to educate and empower our communities by providing illuminated resources for school food service authorities, cooperatives, food banks, pantries, soup kitchens, and other community agencies.



"The opportunity to network with like-minded industry talent, problem solve and to help others achieve their professional goals."



#### Join Our Alliance!

Become a voice in your community & join a group of like-minded professionals who are passionate and devoted to working together to nourish our nation.

Visit www.commodityfoods.org to join today!