

**THERE ARE NUMEROUS ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COUNTRY WORKING TO FEED THEIR LOCAL CHILDREN ON WEEKENDS USING MANY DIFFERENT MODELS.**

**HERE ARE OUR PROGRAM COORDINATORS COMMENTS ON WHAT THEY FEEL ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING UNITED UNDER ONE NATIONAL UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION.**

We have significant mutual resources within our network. Tapping into them allows us to learn best practices and to support each other. I've learned many best practices from this group for fundraising, food drives, and the food bank. I've been the beneficiary of surplus from other sites and have also been able to pay it forward with our surplus.

I enjoy being able to leverage our relationships. If someone has extra food, they are willing to reach out. If there is a company out there willing to donate/fundraise for us and it crosses town lines, there can be collaboration. There are idea-sharing and resources you can reach out to if you have questions/concerns.



Having the benefit of the greater organization worked out our rules and guidelines, accounting, banking, 501 (3) (c) and ability to use that to get donations and use the Food Bank have been crucial for us, along with the initial seed money and gifts. I

don't think our program would have happened without those things. I wouldn't be able to get a BOD together. The people who started it certainly did not have the time to invest and even after I took over, it would've been difficult to sustain. This program allows a site to begin with very limited resources and grow from there. These things have allowed me to streamline processes that make managing the actual program with our volunteers and coordinators very easy.



For me, I needed a turnkey program that made sense. End 68 had that structure, and it was easily laid out for me, with experience behind it. There wasn't duplicated effort to set up another 501(c)(3), and deal with the reporting. I like that there's a national organization that provides additional accountability; accountability is important to donors. I like that other cities have tried things that work and who are willing to share information. There are shared administrative benefits, and marketing was available already (logos and other materials). However, there's a nice balance with flexibility to do what works on a local level too. To me, End 68 is a nice blend of a national organization with local flexibility. There's collaboration available, too, with a variety of experiences to draw upon. There is a lot of ad hoc work out there, which is great; but End 68 has a plan and structure that ensures continuity of services to students.