

### **By Jan Rahn**

*Managing Editor*

The Grant USDA Service Center and the Natural Resources Conservation Service supported the “Feds Feed Families” national food drive by contributing 28 pounds of food to the cause.

Led by the Office of Personnel Management, the Chief Human Capital Officers Council, and other federal agencies, food was raised for Americans struggling with hunger across the country.

The food donated locally during the drive which ran from June 1-Aug. 31 was given to the Perkins County Food Pantry.

Last year, USDA employees donated 432,000 pounds of food, with 93.2 pounds of that amount collected by the local Perkins County USDA service center.

Although the Grant center was hoping to have a better response from the community, the donations were appreciated and it is hoped there will be better participation next year.

The national food drive began in 2009 as part of President Obama’s “United We Serve” campaign and was designed to help food banks and pantries stay stocked during summer months, a time when they traditionally encounter decreases in donations and increases in the need for assistance.

During the first year of the drive, federal employees donated 1 million pounds of food nationally that went to local food banks and agencies. Last year, the amount donated was up to 1.7 million pounds.

The goal for this year’s collection was set at 2 million. The nationwide results of the collection are not yet available.