



Annual Report

South Dakota Sportsmen Against Hunger

2022

Annual Report

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Making a difference...

As I write the annual letter for South Dakota Sportsmen Against Hunger (SDSAH), it's with a heavy heart. Long-time board member Chris Hesla passed away in September. In addition to being an outdoor enthusiast and wildlife advocate, Chris was an engaged SAH Board Member. He will be missed, and we appreciate all his contributions to this organization. Here is a link to [Chris's obituary](#).

I also wanted to extend a quick thank you to Matt Gassen. Most know Matt from his big smile and tireless efforts as the CEO of Feeding South Dakota. He was also a very active board member with Sportsmen Against Hunger. Matt recently retired from both Feeding South Dakota and SDSAHA.

Thank you to Chris and Matt for Making a Difference!

As you recall from last year's report, SDSAHA surpassed 1-million pounds of donated meat. Quite a milestone! This organization has truly made a difference over the decades. Although we are proud of our achievements, the need continues. Inflation is at a 40-year high, and it isn't anticipated to subside for another year....maybe longer. This will almost certainly create headwinds for South Dakota families already battling food insecurity.

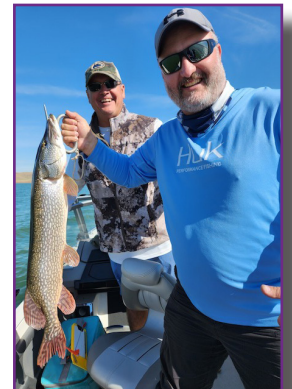
Last year, SDSAHA provided over 18,000 pounds of lean protein to families facing food insecurity. This came from harvested wild game including deer, antelope, elk, Canada goose, rooster pheasants, and walleye. This was possible through our certificate program as well as generous donations from South Dakota sportsmen. Additional venison was also harvested from the Rapid City and Ellsworth Air Force Base deer reduction plans.

None of this could have been possible without the continued support of South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks! Game, Fish, and Parks has been a steadfast supporter and fiscal partner for several years. Additionally, our mission could not have been accomplished without the logistical support from Feeding South Dakota and their network of agency partners. SDSAHA has also been blessed by the private support from Scheels, Wal-Mart, The Elmen Foundation, First Premier Bank, and First Interstate Bank among many others (please see major donors).

Last but certainly not least, thank you to the processors who have been willing to work with us over the years. The processing and packaging of this valuable resource is not an easy job.

Again, thank you to all the supporters of this program. You make a difference in the lives of so many South Dakota families!!!

Sincerely,
Tom Weaver
Treasurer, South Dakota Sportsmen Against Hunger



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About SDSAH

South Dakota Sportsmen Against Hunger (SDSAH) helps to fund and promote the donation of wild game and fish to families facing hunger throughout South Dakota. It is a successful partnership between hunters and anglers, the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, Game, Fish, and Parks Commission, SDSAH, Feeding South Dakota and participating meat processors and food pantries.

SDSAH game donations by sportsmen and women include not only deer, as a primary program, but also include donation of antelope, elk, Canada geese, fish, and pheasant. The variety of donated game meat and fish is very much appreciated by families who receive it, as indicated by testimonials from food pantries which distribute the meat.

The total amount of game meat donated this past year from all sources was 18,615 pounds. This now brings total pounds of meat donated through SDSAH since inception in 1993 to over one million pounds, or over four million meals of meat to South Dakota families.

Testimonials

“

Thank you for contacting us to see if we could use deer meat. The Clark community greatly appreciates your donation.

Thank You,
Misty Riter, CSW
ICAP
Clark, SD

”

Thank you and the Sportsmen Against Hunger for your donation of meat to the Trinity Lutheran Food Pantry in Lake Norden. May God's blessings come your way as other less fortunate will be blessed by your kindness.

In Christy,
Sharon Thue and Barb Ruotsalainen,
Co-coordinators
Trinity Lutheran Food Pantry
Lake Norden, SD

Check-off Program

Hunters are to again be recognized for donating funds to SDSAH through the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks Hunting License Application Check-off Program. A total of \$27,419 cash donations were made in fiscal year 2022.

In recent years these funds have helped SDSAH cover the cost of the Processing Certificate Program in which hunters may use processing certificates available from SDSAH game processors to pay most or all of the cost of processing donated antlerless deer, doe/fawn antelope, and Canada geese. In addition, the donated funds have been used towards the cost of salvage processing game deer taken in city deer reduction programs, etc.

Credit also goes to hunters who paid the full cost of processing other donated game such as buck deer, buck antelope, and pheasants.

Success of SDSAH can be attributed also to game processors who have participated in SDSAH and provided incentive to hunters to donate by reducing the cost of processing donated game. When coupled with the SDSAH Processing Certificate Program there was often no cost to the hunter.

This past year the 16 game meat processors who cooperated with SDSAH were instrumental in delivering processed meat to Feeding South Dakota food banks and to local food pantries which then provided the meat to families facing hunger in our state.

Major Donors

We extend our gratitude to the following major donors who supported SDSAH this past fiscal year. Without their support, this program would not be possible.

- South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
- Scheels of Sioux Falls
- Renee, Rebecca and Richard Elmen Foundation
- The Greater Dacotah Chapter of Safari Club
- First Premier Bank
- First Interstate Bank
- Local Sportsmen's Clubs and Many More!!

We also extend thanks to hunters for donating game animals and for their financial contributions through the Hunting License Application Check-off Program.

Chronic Wasting Disease Testing Policy

For the second year the SDSAH deer and elk donation program required that all donated deer and elk taken in South Dakota west of the Missouri River, in Sully County, or out-of-state, be tested for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Even though public health officials have found no link between CWD and any neurological disease in humans, the SDSAH Board of Directors still wanted to take steps to minimize risk of human exposure to CWD.

To accomplish the required CWD testing, additional cooperation and effort was requested and received from hunters, game processors, and Department of Game, Fish, and Parks. The result was that of 66 deer tested, two tested positive whereby the meat was destroyed. The remaining meat was processed and provided to food pantries associated with Feeding South Dakota.

SDSAH Game Processors

Central Processing	Miller
Dakota Butcher	Clark
Dakota Butcher	Watertown
Gosch Meat Market	Glenham
Huron Custom Meats	Huron
Jorgenson Meat Processing	Waubay
Kleinschmit Locker	Yankton
Lee's Meats & Sausages	Tea
Midwestern Meat Locker	Newell
Mitchell Locker	Mitchell
Ol' Mill Meats	Milbank
Piedmont Cutting Edge Meats	Piedmont
Spilde Quality Meats	Rapid City
Steamboat Game & Fish	Pierre
Waldner Specialty Meats	Milbank
Western Buffalo Company	Rapid City

Financials

South Dakota Sportsmen Against Hunger relies on donations and grants from corporations, businesses and individuals to help fund its programs. The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks provides over \$34,000 of in-kind contractual services support for operating SDSAH. The Department also provides and administers a voluntary checkoff option on its hunting and fishing license applications whereby hunters and anglers can make voluntary contributions to SDSAH when they purchase those licenses.

Donations and checkoff funds received are spent on processing costs, with minor amounts on other categories as noted in the statement below. For more information on how to donate, see our website at feedtheneedsd.com, or you can complete the donation form below and mail it directly to us with your donation.

SOUTH DAKOTA SPORTSMEN AGAINST HUNGER

Annual Income/Expense Statement

For Period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

INCOME

GAME, FISH AND PARKS GRANTS	\$	33,619.06	
HUNTERS CHECKOFF FUNDS	\$	27,419.00	
DONATIONS	\$	7,209.22	
INTEREST			
RECEIVABLES	\$	8,466.55	
TOTAL INCOME			\$ 76,713.83

EXPENSE

PROCESSING COSTS FOR ANIMALS	\$	(25,477.00)	
CONTRACT SERVICES	\$	(34,200.30)	
POSTAGE	\$	(134.00)	
OTHER EXPENSE	\$	(4,437.53)	
LICENSES/FEES/PERMITS	\$	-	
PRINTING	\$	(1,842.25)	
INSURANCE	\$	(1,125.00)	
PAYABLES			
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$ (67,216.08)
YEAR TO DATE PROFIT/LOSS			\$ 9,497.75

(Unaudited - Accrual Basis)

SD Sportsmen Against Hunger Donation Form

Yes! I want to support Sportsmen Against Hunger in South Dakota in combating hunger by making a monetary donation of funds to help pay processing costs for donated game animals.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Information:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Complete this form, include payment and mail to:
SD Sportsmen Against Hunger, PO Box 1172, Pierre SD 57501