

On **March 10-11, 2011**, Numana, Inc. (an international hunger relief organization) and Universities Fighting World Hunger (a partnership between the UN World Food Programme and more than 150 universities around the globe) hosted The **Kansas Hunger Dialogue** in Overland Park, KS. In this, the inaugural year, administrators, educators, and students from 20 of Kansas's 42 public and private higher learning institutions gathered to develop an understanding of current hunger initiatives on their campuses. Participants pledged to take action by increasing awareness and advocacy, as well as strengthening academic initiatives, to end hunger domestically and around the world. .

International and national speakers traveled to Overland Park, KS, to address the Dialogue. Among them were Ambassador Tony Hall, Director of the Alliance to End Hunger, Dr. Margaret Ziegler, Deputy Director of the Congressional Hunger Center, Luis Siteo, Counsel, Embassy of Mozambique and Dr. Alastair Summerlee, President, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Progress is already being realized as Emporia State University educators and students hosted a Numana food-packaging event in their community only days after the conference to benefit the disaster victims in Japan. Additionally, committees are being formed by the Kansas Board of Regents, the Kansas Independent College Association, and leaders from several Kansas colleges and universities to determine how to make ending hunger a core value at these institutions and to collaborate in the development of statewide solutions originating in the heart of the nation.