



FEEDING AMERICA

A Publication of the Food Bank of Northern Indiana

SPRING 2022

ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD COLLABORATES WITH FOOD BANK OF NORTHERN INDIANA



New Partnership to Provide Permanent Outdoor Drive-Thru Façade at Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

In December 2021, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield announced a \$240,900 investment over three years with the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. Funding enables the Food Bank to construct a permanent drive-thru façade for the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County, internal construction, and relocation of the Healthy Choices Market and UDSA commodity storage during year one, and healthy produce purchases to distribute through the Community Food Pantry and Healthy Choices Market in years two and three. This announcement marked Anthem's partnership with all 11 Indiana food banks to create healthier communities.

Anthem's support of the Food Bank expands on the company's history of supporting Indiana residents and communities in addressing the many factors that influence health, including access to healthy food. According to data available at "Close to Home," a social driver of health information available through Anthem, Inc., the parent company of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, 14.7% of the residents of St. Joseph County are food insecure and don't have regular access to nutritious foods to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"Access to food is a basic need, and lack of access has a significant negative impact on a person's health," said Mark

Schneider, regional vice president of Medicare for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. "As a lifetime, trusted health partner, Anthem believes in supporting the person's whole-health needs, like access to nutritious food because we know that it will help people live healthier lives."

The Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County, located onsite at the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, is the largest pantry in its network of 125 agency partners in its six-county service area and open three days per week for 20 hours. This client choice pantry allows neighbors to select items that best meet their personal needs. Currently, clients can shop two times per month. The Food Bank quickly pivoted to a drive-thru distribution model for this pantry at the onset of the pandemic in March 2020.

Marijo Martinec, executive director and CEO, Food Bank of Northern Indiana said, "We are so humbled by the generosity of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield for this partnership which allows us to build a permanent façade, provide a more dignified shopping experience for neighbors, shelter from the four seasons of Indiana weather for our volunteers who serve these shoppers and provide healthier food options for those who struggle with hunger."





WISH LIST

- Exterior Painting of the Building \$200.000
- of the Parking Lot
 \$150,000

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Boxed Dinners – Any Variety
Canned Fruit – Any Variety
Canned Soup – Any Variety
Canned Vegetables – Any Variety
Jelly

Macaroni And Cheese Pancake Mix

Daniel Com

Pancake Syrup

Peanut Butter

Boxed Dinner Meals – Any Variety

Spaghetti – Whole Wheat

Spaghetti Sauce

Cleaning Products

Personal Care Items – Bar Soap, Body Wash, Deodorant, Shampoo, Toothbrushes, and Toothpaste

Pop top lids are preferred; no glass items, please.



CAN YOU HELP?

Call 574-232-9986 for more information.



IN MY VIEW

It's unimaginable that we've lived and worked through two years of a pandemic. Its ever-changing nature had forced the Food Bank of Northern Indiana to change the way we feed the hungry.

At the onset of the pandemic, our on-site food pantry and many pantry partners throughout our network quickly pivoted to outdoor, drive-thru



distributions to feed hungry neighbors. Two years later, our on-site pantry now operates in a drive-thru model. Many of our partners continue to serve clients in this method of distribution, too. Our new partnership with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield has enabled us to construct a permanent drive-thru façade this year to better serve our clients. A new partnership with United Way of St. Joseph County through its partnership with DoorDash enables us to provide home deliveries in St. Joseph County to some clients who are in need of food assistance and have transportation challenges getting food delivered to them.

These changes enable us to feed our hungry neighbors with the dignity and efficiency that we may not have considered prior to the pandemic, neighbors like Kathy and her grandsons.

Nothing we do is possible without you.

With gratitude,



Marijo Martinec Executive Director and CEO mmartinec@feedindiana.org





MEET KATHY

Kathy is a 69-year-old grandmother raising her grandsons who range from early teens to early 20s. The boys moved in with her when their mother unexpectedly passed away eight years ago. Kathy retired early due to health issues and her family's income is limited. The three boys are disabled which prohibits Kathy from working full-time. She has shopped at the Community Food Pantry over the past few years so she can provide enough food on the table for three hungry boys.

Pantry day at the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County, the Food Bank's on-site pantry, is a big deal in their house. The boys love to help unpack the boxes/bags and enthusiastically shout out what they've

received. Kathy said, "we do not qualify for food stamps, so this help from the food pantry is a huge help with our large grocery bills." She added, "the drive-thru service is great! The line moves quickly, and the kids don't have to try to behave for hours while we wait." She added that pantry volunteers are always helpful, courteous, and treat her family with kindness.

Families like Kathy's are struggling in every community we serve. Your support makes a difference. Call 574-232-9986 for more information on how you can help.



2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS Cindie McPhie, Chair Beacon Health Systems, Elkhart General Hospital **Matthew Holtz, Secretary Brandon Demitruk, Treasurer and Secretary TCU Dustin Adams Honor Credit Union Linda Bernth** Laven Insurance John G. Bolstetter, Treasurer Retired CFO Joe Fullenkamp Barnes & Thornburg, LLP **Jason Pursehouse** Meijer **Angie Rupchock-Schafer** Marshall County Community Foundation **Tim Ryan** Ryan Career Consulting **David Sisk** United Way of LaPorte County Alicia Webber **Hub International Limited Brandon White** South Bend Community School Corporation **Jeff Wisler Woodforest National Bank** 2021 FOOD BANK OF **NORTHERN INDIANA STAFF** Marijo Martinec, Executive Director and CEO Kim Barrier, Chief Financial Officer Lee Ann Crawford, Administrative Assistant Phyllis Emmons, Human Resources Director Timo Fuentes. Warehouse Services Oscar Gibson, Warehouse Manager **Jeff Hammet**, Distribution Coordinator **Brandy Love,** *Agency Relations Director* Cassidy Martenson, Programs and Experience Coordinator Theresa Thompson, Finance Manager **Brenner Ullery,** Administrative Assistant



MESSAGE FROM FBNI BOARD CHAIR

2021 has proven to be yet another challenging year on so many levels, especially for the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. Layering onto the issues that had carried over from 2020, now there

are supply chain issues, housing shortages paired with record prices and rising inflation rates that haven't been seen for years. All of these things, competing with household budgets that were already strained for so many — the basic need for food continues to be great in our community.

In 2021, the Food Bank of Northern Indiana distributed 10,454,309 pounds of food which is the equivalent of 8,167,429 meals. This distribution is second only to 2020 when a record 11,926,255 pounds of food were distributed. The food was distributed across the six counties that the Food Bank serves, through agency partners and mobile pantry distributions. Thanks to the generosity of our community and business partners, individual donors and those who graciously volunteered their time, the Food Bank was able to help so many in need in the areas we serve. This, along with the tireless work of the leaders and staff of the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, made a very difficult year, just a little bit better for so many by easing the pressures that come from food insecurity.

On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, I'd like to express our extreme gratitude to all who have made such a positive impact on our community by supporting the Food Bank. We could not have touched so many lives without the support of our community and business partners, individual donors and volunteers contributing to make our community stronger.

Thank you,

Cindie McPhie 2021 Board Chair







DONORS AND COMMUNITY 2021 Top 20

Food Donors

- IFSSA-USDA
- Produce Alliance, LLC
- RTI Services
- Sam's Club #6315
- Costco Wholesale
- NFI Industries/Bimbo Bakeries
- Walmart #1278"
- Meiier #121
- Trader Joe's

- Walmart #2679
- Walmart #2276
- Kerlikowski Family Farm
- Walmart #3436
- Walmart #1566
- Walmart #4399
- Walmart #2680
- Target
- Well Pet Geodis
- Walmart #1487

2021 AT A GLANCE

Through its network of 125 active agency partners, the Food Bank of Northern Indiana distributed 10.4 million lbs. of food through food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and daycare facilities in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties. In addition, we directly provide food to people in need through our Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, Senior Nutrition Program, Senior Healthy Choices Market, Mobile Food Pantry Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

- Pounds Distributed: 10,454,309 lbs. provided up to 8,167,429 meals.
- **Pounds Acquired**: 9,666,947 lbs.
- Agency Direct Retail
 Pick-Up Program Acquired:
 1,382,604 lbs.
- Food 4 Kids
 Backpack Program:
 1,903 students, 53,440 bags,
 160,320 lbs., 213,760 meals.
- Senior Nutrition Program: 8,934 bags, 105,755 lbs.
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CFSP): 4,597 clients served through 16 sites in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall and St. Joseph Counties, 144,000 lbs. distributed, 113,029 lbs. received.
- Mobile Food Distributions: 154 mobile distributions, 1,841,372 lbs. of food distributed, the equivalent of up to 1,438,572 meals.

- The Emergency Food Assistance Program including the TEFAP Fresh Produce Box Program: 4,277,407 lbs. distributed; 3,455,975 lbs. received.
- USDA Mobile
 Distribution Program:
 952,543 lbs.distributed.
- Volunteers:
 6,246 volunteers,
 17,024 hours.
- Mobile Food Distributions: 210 mobiles; 2,619,018 lbs. distributed; 61,894 households/229,549 individuals served.
- Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County: 17,103 households/66,112 individuals served; distributed 1,219,028 lbs. of food — the equivalent of up to 952,366 meals.

• Walmart #1978

- Walmart #2678
- Target
- Value-Added Food Sales
- Walmart #1304

Food Drives

- Lippert Components
- Muffet McGraw Neighborhood Food Drives
- Mason Services Center at the University of Notre Dame
- Boy Scouts of America Troop #325
- University of Notre Dame Mendoza Graduate Programs
- iPORCH Neighborhood Food Drives

- University of Notre Dame Women's Basketball Team
- Real Housewives of LaPorte County
- Holtz's Heroes Foundation Inc.
- Martin's Super Market #10
- Christ the King School
- Martin's Super Market #4
- Lippert Components Plant #58
- Martin's Super Market #25
- Utilimaster
- University of Notre Dame Finance Division
- St. Mark Missionary Church
- Martin's Super Market #16
- Martin's Super Market #11
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church

YOU COUNT ON US TO USE YOUR DONATION WISELY





FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2021

INCOME

Donations and Gifts	\$3,643,079
Government Contributions	\$736,602
Special Events	\$11,594
Programs	\$135,700
Procurement	\$493,895
Estimated Total Income	\$5,020,870

EXPENSES

All Food Distribution Costs*	\$1,813,899
Kid and Senior Programs	\$232,468
Management and General	\$257,647
Fundraising	\$309,239
Estimated Total Expense	\$2,613,25

ESTIMATED NET INCOME \$2,407,617

*Does not include donated food dollars – this information is available upon completed audit.



OUR MISSION

The Food Bank of Northern Indiana works in partnership with the community to feed the hungry, increase awareness of the effects of hunger and lead programs designed to alleviate hunger. The Food Bank serves Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke and St. Joseph Counties and is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Indiana's Hungry and United Way.

Food Bank of Northern Indiana 702 Chapin St South Bend, IN 46601-2804 574-232-9986 • 800-879-7040

feedindiana.org



The Food Bank of Northern Indiana is a proud member of:







PROGRAM UPDATES

For more information on the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, Healthy Choices Market, and Senior Nutrition Program, please contact Marijo Martinec at 574-232-9986 ext. 124.

Agency Spotlight

Mary & Jerry's Helping Hands 10072 W. 600 South Mentone, IN 46539 Thursday 2-5pm



Mary & Jerry's Helping Hands Serves Residents of Kosciusko County

- 1 Clients are asked to provide the names, address, and number of people in their household.
- Clients may shop weekly at this pantry.
- 3 This pantry resembles a mini grocery store with eight freezers and refrigerators, and shelves lined with a variety of food.
- 4 Non-perishable foods, frozen meat, and produce are offered, and non-food items are offered when available.

Mary and Jerry's Helping Hands has been helping Kosciusko County neighbors for 35 years and has been a Food Bank of Northern Indiana partner for 20 years.

Clients are not just a number; they are treated like friends. Mary loves to engage with the clients and learn about their families.

Because of the pandemic, this pantry now operates in a drive-thru model. If someone must come inside, safety protocols are followed including a temperature check and wearing a mask.

Mary & Jerry's Helping Hands has heard many stories over the past 35 years. Many of the stories of those who struggle with hunger are sad. They help many single mothers who are always so grateful to take home food for their children.



Senior Nutrition Program

Through December 2021, the Senior Nutrition Program distributed 8,934 senior nutrition bags/105,755 lbs. of food in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties.

For more information about Food 4 Kids and the Senior Nutrition Program, please contact Cassidy Martenson, Programs and Experience Coordinator, at

574-232-9986 ext. 127 or cmartenson@feedindiana.org.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

Through December 2021, 4,597 seniors in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall and St. Joseph Counties received 144,000 lbs. of food.

For more information about Food Bank partner agencies and CSFP, please contact Brandy Love, Agency Relations Director, at **574-232-9986 ext. 137** or **blove@feedindiana.org**.

2021 Mobile Food Pantry Statistics







County	# of Distributions	Pounds	Households	Individuals
Elkhart	23	249,001	5,050	18,921
Kosciusko	15	180,060	3,450	11,448
LaPorte	28	334,452	9,539	29,406
Marshall	20	228,704	4,489	15,253
Starke	21	216,475	4,755	13,663
St. Joseph	47	632,680	11,434	41,763
Total	154	1,841,372	38,717	130,454

Reflects mobile distributions held from January – December 2021



Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

Through December 2021, the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County served 17,103 households/66,112 individuals and distributed 1,219,028 lbs. of food.

Food 4 Kids Backpack Program

During the 2021-2022 school year, the Food Bank is feeding 2,825 students in 47 schools in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties.

One of our Food 4 Kids Backpack Program site coordinators recently shared the following: "One of our families had a domestic dispute which left them suddenly with reduced funds. The food bags were able to help this family with hunger needs during a difficult time."

An investment of \$150 (or \$3.75 per week) provides food for one child for the school year. An investment of \$320 (or \$8 per week) provides an enhanced food bag for one child for the school year.

2022 Board of Directors Cindie McPhie, MBA, Chairman Beacon Health System Elkhart General Hospital Brandon Demitruk, Treasurer and Secretary Linda Bernth Laven Insurance John G. Bolstetter Retired CFO Joe Fullenkamp Barnes & Thornburg, LLP John O'Brien WNDU Jason Pursehouse Meijer Angie Rupchock-Schafer Marshall County Community Foundation Tim Ryan Ryan Career Consulting Alicia Webber **Hub International Limited Brandon White** South Bend Community School Corporation Jeff Wisler Woodforest National Bank Marijo Martinec, Executive Director and CEO Food Bank of Northern Indiana The Food Bank of Northern Indiana works in partnership with the community to feed the hungry, increase awareness of the effects of hunger and lead programs designed to alleviate hunger. The Food Bank of Northern Indiana serves Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke and St. Joseph Counties and is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Indiana's Hungry and United Way. 100% (\$272,130) [FY 2021-2022] of total program costs for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) are financed with federal funds. TEFAP is an equal opportunity employer and provider. 100% (\$44,756) [FY 2021-2022] of total program costs for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) are financed with federal funds. CSFP is an equal opportunity provider.

foodbanks of NORTHERN INDIANA







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15-FBNIN-0422-N

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!

We need you to help us feed hungry neighbors.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Pre-sorting and sorting donations in our warehouse.
- Packing boxes for our programs such as Food 4 Kids, Senior Nutrition and Mobile Food Pantry Boxes, which provides food assistance to those most vulnerable in our community.
- Helping with various cleaning and organization projects throughout the warehouse.
- Being a personal shopper in the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County located on site at the Food Bank.

Opportunities are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Extended volunteer hours are available on Wednesdays until 5:30 p.m. A two-hour time commitment is preferred. If you live outside of St. Joseph County and would like to volunteer, we can connect you with our partner agencies in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, and Starke Counties.

Through December 2021, 6,246 volunteers provided 17,024 hours for Food Bank Programs.

Share your time and talent with us! Sign up at **feedindiana.org/get-involved/volunteer** or call Cassidy Martenson, Programs and Experience Manager, at **574-232-9986 ext. 127**.













FOOD FINDERS



To meet the demand for emergency food assistance, the Food Bank actively seeks manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, food growers, packers, and grocers to procure more protein, produce, dairy and shelf-stable items to distribute through our network of agency partners.

Through December 2021, the Food Bank distributed 10,454,309 lbs. and received 9,666,947 lbs. of product. During this period, 4,277,407 lbs. of government commodities were distributed and 3,455,975 lbs. were received.

Our Agency Direct Pick-Up Program received 1,382,604 lbs. through December 2021.