



# **FEEDING Matters**

A Publication of the Food Bank of Northern Indiana

**SPRING 2023** 





## ON THE FRONT LINES

#### At a Glance

- >>> The Food Bank received 8,942,677 lbs. and distributed 8,920,868 lbs. of food in 2022.
- From January December 2022, 117 mobile distributions served 24,434 households/81,497 individuals and distributed 661,226 lbs. of food the equivalent of up to 516,583 meals in our six-county service area.
- 6,770 volunteers contributed 16,320 volunteer hours.
- >>> 27,240 households/96,672 individuals served at the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County and distributed 1,236,211 lbs. of food the equivalent of up to 965,790 meals.

\*Due to Feeding Matters production schedule, numbers reflect January – December 2022.

#### Why We Volunteer — Haley and Mon

Haley and Mon volunteer two afternoons a week at the Food Bank, packing Food 4 Kids Backpack bags.

As a young deaf woman with developmental challenges, Haley gains a great boost of self-esteem knowing that she is helping youth in her community. Mon accompanies Haley and enjoys making a difference in her community.

Haley has learned that individuals (especially children) in the community need help, and she enjoys providing that help. Mon has learned about various programs that the Food Bank offers to those in need of food assistance and the DoorDash home delivery program the Food Bank has piloted over the past year at no cost for neighbors who need food assistance and have transportation challenges.

Haley is motivated to volunteer because she likes to help others and loves showing off her name tag sticker after work! Mon believes no person should ever have to go hungry, and everyone can play a role in feeding our hungry neighbors.

Haley gains a sense of purpose and pride volunteering and also deeply values the friends she has made with Food Bank team members. Mon knows she is having a positive impact in her community as well as having a sense of purpose. Both give wonderful hugs, too!



Haley is a terrific encourager and leader and really enjoys helping new volunteers learn the ropes. She is proud to wear her Food Bank name tag sticker, too. Mon likes being part of a collective group of extraordinary volunteers and staff she works with.

Haley enjoys volunteering at the Food Bank because it's a welcoming place, volunteers are valued, she's made new friends, enjoys helping kids, and loves her name tag sticker. Mon enjoys volunteering because it's a proactive way to help others in her own community.

Can you help us feed hungry neighbors? Call (574) 232-9986 ext. 127 to learn more about volunteer opportunities at the Food Bank.

### WISH LIST

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

### MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Boxed Breakfast Cereal
Boxed Dinner Meals — any
variety

Canned Fish and Meat
Canned Beans (Black, Garbanzo,
Pinto, Kidney)

**Canned Fruit** 

**Peanut Butter and Jelly** 

**Macaroni and Cheese** 

**Household Cleaning Products** 

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

### HELP US RESTOCK

Hold a Food and Funds Drive and Help Us Restock the Food Bank's Shelves!

Many neighbors continue to struggle to put food on the table.

Hosting a **Food and Fund Drive** at your place of employment, school, church, organization, or club can make a direct impact in our communities and helps us restock our shelves. Every \$1 donated to the Food Bank provides up to five meals or eight pounds of food.

### CAN YOU HELP?

Call (574) 232-9986 ext. 127 for more information.



### IN MY VIEW

Finally, it's Spring in northern Indiana. Just like the weather, life is unpredictable.

The need for food assistance continues to be high for our neighbors who struggle to put food on the table. In 2022, our network of partner pantries saw a 40% increase in households served. Our network of pantries works hard to keep up with this need. However, neighbors can only shop at a pantry once every 30 days.



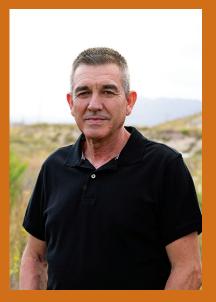
The Food Bank's Mobile Food Distribution Program takes our show on the road — providing bonus distributions by serving neighbors in their communities throughout our six-county service area. Attendees receive both perishable and nonperishable food items in a drive-thru style of distribution. We are mindful of transportation challenges these neighbors may have, and are more intentional about holding these distributions in food desert areas throughout northern Indiana. We try to provide more of the top 10 foods commonly consumed throughout different cultures. These distributions help our hungry neighbors and help lighten the load for partner agencies who work tirelessly to keep up with the demand in their pantries. A dedicated group of volunteers help make these distributions work.

Grants, corporate and organization funding makes these mobile distributions possible because neighbors like Darius continue to need our help.

With gratitude,



Marijo Martinec Executive Director and CEO mmartinec@feedindiana.org



### MEET DARRIUS

Darrius is a 55-year-old man who worked as a general contractor for most of his life. Recently, he was injured at work, which made it harder for him to do any physical labor. Because of this, he had to take a break from contracting and lost his main source of income.

"It was the first time I wasn't working full-time, and I really felt the burden when it came to my daily needs. I was struggling to pay my bills on time and find access to good quality food for a price that I could afford."

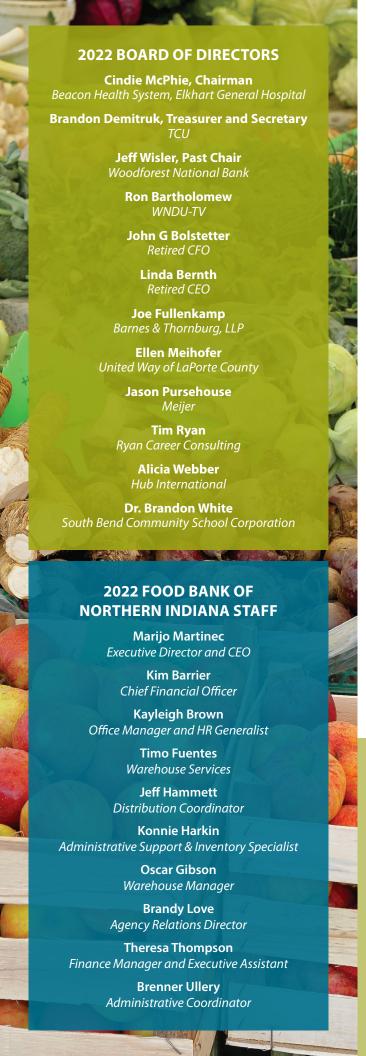
Darrius heard about the Food Bank's mobile food distributions from a family friend who had been using the Food Bank's network of pantries

and mobile distributions over the past few years. After attending a few of the mobile distributions, he began to feel more secure in knowing he had a place to turn for help.

"The stress of knowing how I am going to feed myself while out of work was a lot of what has kept me up at night. The fresh food I get from these mobile pantries is great! I don't have the same worries anymore since finding the help I need through the Food Bank."

Neighbors like Darrius live in every community we serve. Your support makes a difference. Call (574) 232-9986 for more information on how you can help.







# MESSAGE FROM FBNI BOARD CHAIR

IMPACT ... a word that holds infinite possibilities and has limitless definition. HUNGER ... a word we all wish didn't exist. In 2022 we faced unparalleled inflation affecting every home increasing

the household need for food. We have all been impacted by the increased cost of living and families in our community are forced to make very difficult decisions. Our neighbors are in very humbling conditions no one wants to face let alone share. Hunger is a global pandemic and across Northern Indiana the necessity of food for a child and parent continues to grow across the six counties the Food Bank has the privilege to serve.

This year we celebrate 30 years making an IMPACT amongst the communities the Food Bank of Northern Indiana humbly serves. Without our donors, community partners, volunteers, and team this would not be possible. Over 8.9 million pounds of food were distributed in 2022 and over the past three years the Food Bank has distributed over 30 million pounds. This IMPACT on HUNGER could never have been achieved without the incredible Food Bank team. Over these past 30 years we have experienced change of the weather together and will continue to do so. Innovation continues to grow organically by listening to the needs of our communities. Multiple programs and sponsorships have been created including Food 4 Kids Backpack, Mobile Food Pantries, Healthy Choices Market, and Senior Nutrition.

On behalf of the incredible Food Bank team, our volunteers, and the Board of Directors we humbly thank you for the amazing IMPACT you make each and every day to stamp out a word we wish didn't exist ... HUNGER!!! Together as neighbors we make the difference together.

**Jason Pursehouse** 2023 Board Chair



## DONORS AND COMMUNITY

**2022 Top 20** 

#### **Food Donors**

Target - Goshen

Canteen Services
Costco Wholesale
Gold Malted American Waffle
Kroger #903 – Ireland Rd.,
South Bend
NFI Industries/Bimbo Bakeries
Sam's Club #6315
Target – Granger

Walmart #1378 – Goshen Walmart #1566 – Goshen Walmart #2276 – LaPorte Walmart #11487 – Michigan City Walmart #2678 – Mishawaka Walmart #4399 – Osceola Walmart #1978 – Plymouth

Walmart #2679 - Elkhart

Trader Joe's

## 2022 AT A GLANCE

Through its network of 124 active agency partners, the Food Bank of Northern Indiana distributed 8.8 million lbs. of food through food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and daycare facilities in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, St. Joseph, and Starke Counties. In addition, we directly provide food to neighbors in need of food assistance through programs such as The Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County, Direct Agency Pick-Up Program, DoorDash Home Deliveries, Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, Senior Nutrition Program, Mobile Food Distribution Program, Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

- Pounds Distributed: 8,920,868 lbs. provided up to 6,969,428 meals.
- Pounds Acquired: 8.942.677 lbs.
- Agency Direct Retail Pick-Up Program Acquired: 1,440,614 lbs.
- Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County
   27,240 households/96,672 individuals served;
   1,236,211 lbs. distributed.
- DoorDash Home Deliveries 2,362 households/7,898 individuals served; 44,878 lbs. distributed.
- Food 4 Kids
   Backpack Program:
   44 schools; 58,512 bags;
   190,686 lbs.; 234,048 meals.
- USDA Mobile Distribution Program: 147,740 lbs.

- Mobile Food Distributions:
- 117 mobile distributions; 661,226 lbs. distributed — the equivalent of up to 516,683 meals.
- Senior Nutrition Program: 8,639 seniors; 236,317 lbs.
- The Emergency
  Food Assistance
  Program (TEFAP)
  3,119,914 lbs. distributed;
  3,011,565 lbs. acquired.
- Volunteers:
   6,770 volunteers;
   16,320 hours.



Walmart #2680 – Portage Rd., South Bend Walmart #3436 – Ireland Rd., South Bend Walmart #1304 – Warsaw

#### **Food Drives**

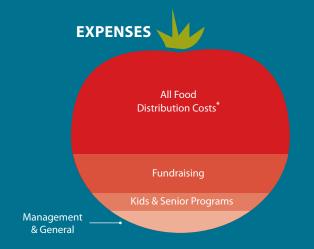
Amazon c/o T. Graft and S. Eva Boy Scouts of America Troop #325 Dexter Plant #60 Indiana University South Bend Honors Program Harmony Healthcare IT iPORCH Food Drive Kennedy Primary Academy Lippert Components Madison STEAM Academy Martin's Super Market #10
Martin's Super Market #11
Martin's Super Market #25
Marshall Traditional School
Mossberg & Company, Inc.
National Association of
Letter Carriers
SAM, LLC
Swanson Highlands
Neighborhood Food Drive
University of Notre Dame
Mendoza Graduate Program

Martin's Super Market #4



# YOU COUNT ON US TO USE YOUR DONATION WISELY





#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2022

#### INCOME

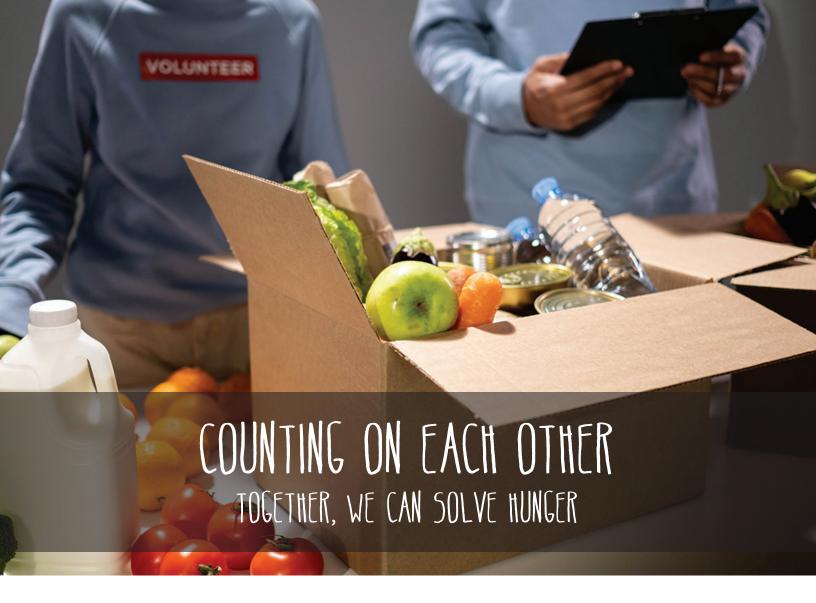
Donations and Gifts	\$3,932,563
Government Contributions	\$330,558
Special Events	\$40,051
Programs	\$189,423
Procurement	\$1,088,044
Estimated Total Income	\$5,581,044

#### **EXPENSES**

All Food Distribution Costs*	\$2,786,841
Kid and Senior Programs	\$372,663
Management and General	\$266,661
Fundraising	\$407,428
Estimated Total Expense	\$3,833,593

ESTIMATED NET INCOME \$1,747,451

\*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, St. Joseph, and Starke 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

#### **Agency Spotlight**

First Brethren Church, Brethren Blessings Food Pantry Ministry 4909 S. Ironwood Dr. South Bend, IN 46614 574-291-4909

**Pantry Hours:** First and third Friday of the month from 10 a.m. – Noon ET.



**Service Area:** The pantry serves all of St. Joseph County, and neighbors may shop once every 30 days. Neighbors must supply proof of residence and are exclusively served through a drive-up curbside distribution.

Brethren Blessings Food Pantry Ministry has been a Food Bank partner agency since 2010. Pantry ministry members feel blessed to be part of the solution for many families struggling to provide enough food for their families, families who have been "down on their luck" and need help for a short time until they get back on their feet, and those who are in need of more long-term assistance. This ministry offers smiles, words of encouragement, and they enjoy getting to really know those they serve and keeping up to date on what is going on in their lives.



"We have a grandma who has been coming to our pantry for years and always uses a proxy to also get food for her son, who is working during pantry hours. He is a single parent of two

young children and trying to make ends meet. One day, the grandma came to the drive-up pantry, and the two grandchildren were in the backseat. They wanted to come and personally thank pantry volunteers for the food they receive monthly for their dad. They said there are many times they would not have food to eat if it weren't for the assistance they receive through the First Brethren Church, Brethren Blessings Food Pantry."

#### **Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)**

Through December 2022, 4,091 seniors in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, and St. Joseph Counties received 113,686 lbs. of food.

To learn more about eligibility requirements for CSFP and about the Food Bank's partner agencies, please contact Brandy Love, Agency Relations Director, at blove@feedindiana.org or (574) 232-9986 ext. 137.

#### **Senior Nutrition Program**

Through December 2022, the Senior Nutrition Program served 8,639 seniors who received 236,317 lbs. of food in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties.



An investment of \$175 ensures that a senior in need of food assistance receives a monthly bag of food.

For more information on how to support the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, Healthy Choices Market, or Mobile Food Distribution Program, please contact Marijo Martinec, Executive Director and CEO at mmartinec@feedindiana.org or (574) 232-9986 ext. 124.

\*Due to the production schedule of Feeding Matters, numbers reflect January through December 2022.

#### **2022 Mobile Food Distribution Statistics**

County	# of Distributions	Pounds	Households	Individuals
Elkhart	22	122,802	5,028	17,760
Kosciusko	9	42,450	1,713	5,873
Marshall	14	60,088	2,369	7,869
LaPorte	19	127,050	5,091	16,263
St. Joseph	32	161,655	6,364	22,434
Starke	21	147,181	4,284	11,298
Total	117	661,226	24,434	81,497

Reflects mobile distributions held from January – December 2022





#### **Food 4 Kids Backpack Program**

Since 2006, the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program has been providing students with a weekend sack of food during the school year and holiday breaks.

During the 2022-2023 school year, the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program is supporting 2,645 students in 45 schools in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties.

The cost is \$150/child for the school year (\$3.75 per week). The Food Bank continues to pilot an enhanced backpack program that provides larger quantities for participants. This program costs \$670/student for the school year (\$8 per week). Can we count on your support? **Call (574) 232-9986 ext. 127 for more information.** 

#### 2023 Board of Directors

Jason Pursehouse, Chairman *Meijer* 

Ron Bartholomew, Vice Chairman WNDU-TV

Brandon Demitruk, Treasurer and Secretary

Cindie McPhie, MBA, Past Chairman Beacon Health System Elkhart General Hospital

> Linda Bernth Retired CEO

Joe Fullenkamp Barnes & Thornburg, LLP

Ellen Meihofer United Way of LaPorte County

> Tim Ryan Ryan Career Consulting

> > Alicia Webber Hub International

Dr. Brandon White South Bend Community School Corporation

Jeff Wisler Woodforest National Bank

Marijo Martinec, Executive Director and CEO <u>Food B</u>ank of Northern Indiana

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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% (\$32,566.00) [FY 2022-2023] of total program costs for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) are financed with federal funds. CSFP is an equal opportunity provider.

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## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!



We need **your** help to feed our hungry neighbors! Volunteer opportunities can include:

- Packing food bags and boxes for distributions.
- Pre-sorting donations in our warehouse.
- Serving as a personal shopper in the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County located on-site at the Food Bank.
- → Helping with various cleaning and organization projects inside the warehouse and outside on the Food Bank's property.

Opportunities are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. -4 p.m. with extended hours available until 5 p.m. on Wednesday. A two-hour time commitment is preferred.

If you live outside of St. Joseph County, we can connect you with our partner agencies in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, and Starke Counties.

Through December 2022, 6,770 volunteers provided 16,320 hours for the Food Bank.

Share your time and talent with us.

Sign up at feedindiana.org/get-involved/volunteer or call Larry Flickinger, Programs and Experience Manager, at (574) 232-9986 ext. 127.









#### **Food Bank of Northern Indiana**

702 Chapin St South Bend, IN 46601-2804 feedindiana.org 574-232-9986 • 800-879-7040

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## FOOD FINDERS

Through December 2022, the Food Bank distributed **8,920,868 lbs.** and received **8,942,677 lbs.** of product. During this period, **3,282,187 lbs.** of government commodities were distributed, and **3,136,911** were received.

Our Agency Direct Pick-Up Program received **1,440,614 lbs.** through December 2022.