

FEEDING THE HUNGRY DURING A PANDEMIC

- » From March 1 – June 30, the Food Bank **received 4,086,881 pounds** and **distributed 3,904,751 pounds of food**.
- » **Distributed 353,112 pounds of mixed dairy, produce, and meat** through the USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, Farmers to Families Boxes.
- » **Held 87** mobile food distributions and served **18,638 households/68,775 individuals. Distributed 555,943 pounds of food** in our six-county service area.
- » Changed our method of distribution to a no contact **drive-thru model with pre-boxed and pre-bagged items**.
- » **1,671 volunteers** provided **12,543 volunteer hours**, including 15 Indiana National Guard members deployed to the Food Bank beginning in April.
- » Partnered with REAL Services to distribute **130,205 pounds of product to 8,124 low-income seniors** in Elkhart and St. Joseph Counties during April, May, and June.
- » **Served 2,035 new households/8,183 individuals** at the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County.

**These numbers reflect March 1 – June 30, 2020.*



WISH LIST

- ✓ New Lighting (Back of Warehouse)
\$50,000
- ✓ New Lighting (2nd Floor, Warehouse)
\$50,000
- ✓ New Roof
\$200,000
- ✓ (1) Walk-in Freezer
\$50,000
- ✓ Painting Exterior of Building
\$200,000
- ✓ Remodel of Community Food Pantry
\$200,000
- ✓ Grinding and Repaving of Parking Lot
\$150,000

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Canned Chicken and Tuna
Peanut Butter and Jelly
Canned Soups – Chicken Noodle, Vegetables, and Cream of Mushroom
Pancake Mix and Syrup
Boxed Helper Meals – Lasagna, Alfredo, and Cheeseburger
Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Beef Stew and Ravioli
Canned Fruit
Macaroni and Cheese
Boxed Breakfast Cereal
Boxed Potatoes



Call 574-232-9986 ext. 124 for more information.

IN MY VIEW

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, each of us has been touched in one way or another. Your phone calls, PPE, notes, meals, food drives, and financial support has buoyed us during a time when we need it most.

Thank you for being a helper! We are forever humbled.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marijo Martinec".

Marijo Martinec
Executive Director and CEO
mmartinec@feedindiana.org

“When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

~ Fred Rogers



SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Every action counts. We can end hunger one helping at a time.

In our communities, countless individuals go to work and school each day, secretly full of shame knowing they will go home to an empty plate rather than a healthy meal.

September is Hunger Action Month. Every Action Counts. We all can play a role in ending hunger in our communities.

- **Thursday, September 10, is Hunger Action Day.** Make a bold statement and wear your brightest orange for those in northern Indiana who go hungry. Snap a selfie and tag us on your social media on Facebook @Food-Bank-of-Northern-Indiana, Twitter @FoodBKNIndiana or Instagram @foodbknindiana and include #HungerActionMonth and tag @FeedingAmerica, too.
- Hold a food drive to restock the Food Bank's shelves.
- Join in the conversation about hunger in our communities and follow our 30 Days of Hunger Heroes on Facebook. Post a message on a paper plate about hunger and share.
- Encourage community leaders to visit the Food Bank and its partner agencies to learn how we are feeding the hungry.

Hunger exists in every county of the United States and every community in northern Indiana. **Sadly, 92,170 residents in our communities struggle with hunger, including 30,780 children. How will you lend your voice to speak out against hunger?**

PROGRAM UPDATES

For more information on the Food 4 Kids Backpack Program, Healthy Choices Market, and Senior Nutrition Program, please contact Allison Schoenfeld, programs and experience manager, at 574-232-9986 ext. 127.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

Through June 2020, 3,434 seniors in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, and St. Joseph Counties received **86,082 pounds of food**.

Senior Nutrition Program

Through June 2020, the Senior Nutrition Program served **1,713 seniors, and received 21,057 pounds of food** in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties.

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 June 2020, the Food Bank distributed 5,520,513 pounds and received 5,799,186 pounds of product. During this period, 2,964,074 pounds of government commodities were distributed and 2,992,765 pounds was receipted.

Our Agency Direct Pick-Up Program receipted 663,960 pounds in Elkhart, Kosciusko, LaPorte, and Marshall Counties through June 2020. These agency partners work with Food Bank retail partners to pick up product Monday through Friday.

Due to production schedule of Feeding Matters, all program numbers reflect activities through June 2020.

Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

Through June 2020, the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County served **10,970 households/45,611 individuals and distributed 928,318 pounds of food**.

2020 Mobile Food Pantry Statistics

County	# of Distributions	Pounds	Households	Individuals
Elkhart	13	74,758	2,739	11,031
Kosciusko	12	36,126	1,694	6,437
LaPorte	13	75,617	3,362	12,375
Marshall	11	43,900	1,908	7,263
Starke	13	105,305	1,802	5,481
St. Joseph	29	248,979	7,572	29,477
Total	91	584,685	19,077	72,064

Due to the production schedule of Feeding Matters, these numbers reflect mobile food pantries through June 2020.

Food 4 Kids Backpack Program

We are beginning preparations for the 2020-2021 Food 4 Kids Backpack Program to feed students in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke, and St. Joseph Counties during the 2020 – 2021 school year. The Jordan Automotive Group has served as the program's presenting sponsor since 2009. **An investment of \$150 provides one student with a weekend bag of food during the school year and the nutritional tools to be successful in school AND life.**



Diane, a 68-year-old grandmother, has been responsible for taking care of her three grandchildren for years.

She is a natural caretaker. However, in the last year, her ability to work has been compromised due to illness. "My health has been getting worse, so I do my best to provide for these kids how I can. It's hard not being able to work as much as I used to."

Despite her sickness and inability to work, she still has mouths to feed.

That's why Diane has turned to the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County, located at the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, to help her gain access to affordable and nutritious food for her and her grandchildren.

"I started coming last year when things started to really go downhill health-wise. Every time I come, I leave with enough food for multiple meals."

She continues, "It's so important. The pantry has given me a place to come when I don't have what I need to support myself and my family."

Diane will continue to use the Food Bank of Northern Indiana as a resource to help her fight her challenging circumstances.

"It gives me peace of mind. I'm grateful I have somewhere like this to turn."

Your support makes a difference for these programs. Call (574) 232-9986 ext.124 for more information.

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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, Stark, and St. Joseph Counties and is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Indiana's Hungry (FiH) and United Way.

100% (\$338,067.35) [FY2019-2020] 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% (\$46,250) [FY2019-2020] of total program costs for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) are financed with federal funds. CSFP is an equal opportunity provider.



VOLUNTEERS: WE WANT YOU BACK!

As we adjust to a new normal with the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to need your volunteer help to meet the increased need of those who struggle with hunger.

The Food Bank of Northern Indiana has protocols in place to ensure that you feel safe while volunteering here:

- Volunteers will have their temperature taken upon entering the building.
- Masks are mandatory.
- Plastic gloves are provided.
- Hand sanitizer and hand washing stations are located throughout the building.
- 6 ft. social distancing is practiced with all projects.
- Work areas are regularly sanitized.
- Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. for a variety of projects.

The Community Food Pantry is open from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Wednesday. Currently, this distribution is done outdoors in a drive-thru model.

We also provide a bonus drive-thru distribution on-site at the Food Bank each Thursday from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. with limited contact with clients.

Ideally, you can make a two-hour time commitment.

If you do not live in St. Joseph County but still would like to volunteer, we can use your support at our mobile distributions, or we will put you in touch with one of our pantry partners in your community.

Can you spare an hour or whole day? Share your time and talent with us! Volunteer opportunities are available Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Wednesday until 6 p.m. Call (574) 232-9986 ext. 127 for more information.

Through June 30, 3,524 volunteers provide 17,567 hours for Food Bank Programs.

Stephen Wallisch

February 1971 – March 2020

Steve was the Food Bank of Northern Indiana's longest employee, hired 22 years ago. "Big Steve" was our warehouse assistant who helped keep the Food Bank clean. He had the gift of gab, and you were not truly part of the team until he bluntly told you that "you're below average."

Steve loved spending time with his mother Evelyn, riding his bike all around South Bend, and giving lots of cards and hugs to Food Bank team members, whom he considered his work family. He also loved going to the Kroc Center, sports (especially football), music, and entertaining us with his rendition of Purple Rain.

Steve taught us all that we never should take ourselves too seriously.

Steve died unexpectedly in early March. Rest in peace, Steve. You made our food bank better, and you are deeply missed.



Steve Wallisch (left) with
Tim Fuentes, January 2020.

food bank
OF NORTHERN INDIANA

MEMBER OF
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



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