

ON THE FRONT LINES

At A Glance

- » The Food Bank received **3,526,976 lbs. and distributed 3,535,648 lbs.**
- » From January – May 2022, **30 mobile food distributions served 5,447 households/16,692 individuals and distributed 206,823 lbs. of food/ the equivalent of up to 161,580 meals** in our six-county service area.
- » **2,593 volunteers contributed 6,491 volunteer hours.**
- » **9,954 households/35,216 individuals served** at the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County and distributed **532,790 lbs. of food — the equivalent of up to 416,242 meals.**

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



September is Hunger Action Month! How Will You Choose to End Hunger?

Friday, September 23, is Hunger Action Day. Orange is the symbolic color for hunger relief. Make a bold statement for the nearly 90,000 neighbors in northern Indiana who go to bed hungry including nearly 29,000 children. How will you speak out against hunger?

1 COMMIT

- Organize a food drive at your workplace, club or place of worship.
- Be a Hunger Hero! Share your time and come by yourself or plan a teambuilding day of volunteering with a group at the Food Bank or at one of our 125 partner agencies.
- Share on social media why you like to volunteer at the Food Bank.

2 SPEAK UP

- Go orange for hunger awareness on Friday, September 23, Hunger Action Day. Show us your orangeyist orange and share your thoughts about hunger using #HungerActionDay and #HungerActionMonth.
- Tell Congress that Federal Nutrition Programs matter.
- Promote access to healthier foods for all.

3 LEARN

- Visit feedindiana.org to learn how we are creating healthier communities.
- Encourage community leaders and legislators to visit the Food Bank and its partner agencies to learn more about hunger in our communities.
- Follow our 30 Days of Hunger Heroes on Facebook. Join in the conversation about hunger in northern Indiana.



Find out more at feedindiana.org.

WISH LIST

- ✓ **Exterior Painting of the Building**
\$200,000
- ✓ **Grinding and Repaving of the Parking Lot**
\$150,000

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Boxed Dinner Meals** – any variety
- Canned Fruit** – any variety
- Canned Soup** – any variety
- Canned Vegetables** – any variety
- Canned Meat**
- Dry Beans**
- Peanut Butter**
- Jelly**
- Macaroni and Cheese**
- Spaghetti** – Whole Wheat
- Spaghetti Sauce**
- Household 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 ext. 129 for more information.



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

IN MY VIEW

As we continue to navigate the pandemic and the highest inflation in 40 years, our most vulnerable neighbors are hit the hardest. Now more than ever, people facing hunger are making very difficult choices — medication, utilities, rent, fuel and food. Paying rent may mean regularly skipping a meal. Filling up the car to get to and from work may determine what our neighbors can purchase at the grocery store.

Every community in northern Indiana is home to people who need some extra support in keeping food on the table during this difficult time. Neighbors like Carol, who lives on a fixed income and often decides between paying for food and other necessities like gas in her car or electricity in her home. Or the neighbor once in need at the Argos United Methodist Church Shepherd's Food Pantry who now donates food items nearly every month.

Together, we can provide hope for those who need it most. Nothing we do is possible without you.

With gratitude,

Marijo Martinec
Executive Director and CEO
mmartinec@feedindiana.org

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.”

~ Desmond Tutu

MEET CAROL

Carol, an 80-year-old grandmother and great-grandmother, is reliant on her monthly Social Security check as her main source of income. Because she never worried much about saving money for retirement, Carol often had to decide between paying for food and other necessities.

“Those Social Security checks, they are money. But they aren't much. When you have to decide which necessities, you can spend money on, there is a problem.”



After the past few years of relying on her Social Security checks and receiving help from family and friends, Carol contacted the Food Bank of Northern Indiana and learned about partner food pantries in her community where she can access nutritious food to keep her healthy. “It's great quality food, and healthier too. I probably wouldn't be eating if I didn't contact the Food Bank.”

Neighbors like Carol are struggling in every community we serve. Your support makes a difference.

Call (574) 232-9986 ext. 124 for more information on how you can help.

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.

Senior Nutrition Program

Through May 2022, the Senior Nutrition Program served 4,108 seniors who received 119,456 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 Marijo Martinec, Executive Director and CEO, at (574) 232-9986 ext. 124 or mmartinec@feedindiana.org.



Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County

Through May 2022, the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County served 9,954 households/35,216 individuals and distributed 532,790 lbs. of food.



Food 4 Kids Backpack Program

The Food Bank of Northern Indiana's Food 4 Kids Backpack Program supports students in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall, Starke and St. Joseph Counties with a weekend sack of food during the school year and holiday breaks.



An investment of \$150 (or \$3.75 per week) provides food for one child for the school year. An investment of \$320 (or \$8.00 per week) provides an enhanced food bag for one child for the school year.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

Through May 2022, 2,079 seniors in Elkhart, LaPorte, Marshall and St. Joseph Counties received 54,206 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.

Agency Spotlight

Argos United Methodist Church
Shepherd's Food Pantry
570 N. Michigan St.
Argos, IN 46501
(574) 892-5692

Tuesday: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Thursday: 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Neighbors may shop every two weeks and meet income guidelines. Over the past two years, their food distribution has increased by 50%. While most items are pre-bagged, a client choice sheet allows shoppers to select several food items including personal care items.



The Argos United Methodist Church Shepherd's Food Pantry serves the 46501 (Argos) and 46570 (Tippecanoe) zip codes.

- » The Shepherd's Food Pantry has served the community for more than 30 years and has been a Food Bank agency partner for nearly 20 years.
- » Committed to serving their neighbors, they shared, "We had an older gentleman who was in need and visited our pantry over a period of time. A few months later, he came in with several bags of food to donate. He was very appreciative of the help the Argos UMC Shepherd's Food Pantry provided while he was in need and wanted to give back for others going through a rough period. He has continued to donate items nearly every month."



2022 Mobile Food Pantry Statistics

County	# of Distributions	Pounds	Households	Individuals
Elkhart	6	44,042	1,035	3,578
Kosciusko	3	47,475	498	1,603
LaPorte	5	303,422	1,043	3,443
Marshall	4	16,163	551	1,067
Starke	4	47,091	1,354	3,364
St. Joseph	5	38,391	966	3,357
Total	30	206,823	5,447	16,692

*Reflects mobile distributions held from January – June 2022

2022 Board of Directors

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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.



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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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT!

Volunteer opportunities include:

- » Pre-sorting and sorting donations in our warehouse.
- » 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 May 2022, 2,593 volunteers provided **6,491 hours** for Food Bank Programs.

Share your time and talent with us! **Sign up at feedindiana.org/get-involved/volunteer or call (574) 232-9986 ext. 129.**



Help Us Restock the Food Bank's Shelves!

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

Host a Food Drive at your place of employment, school or church and make a direct impact in our communities and helps us restock our shelves.

**Can you help?
Call (574) 232-9986 for more information.**



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 May 2022, the Food Bank distributed 3,535,648 lbs. and received 3,526,976 lbs. of product. During this period, 1,451,259 lbs. of government commodities were distributed and 1,417,426 lbs. were received.

Our Agency Direct Pick-Up Program received 695,244 lbs. through May 2022.

