

Food Waste and Creating a Healthier Northern Indiana

There is an estimated 80 billion pounds of food waste each year in the United States.

What if the Food Bank could improve the types of food we provide to those in need of food assistance? Items like fresh produce, lean protein and complex carbohydrates.

What if these improved food items we're providing at food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and day care facilities could affect the overall health of the communities we serve?

- 14% of the people living in northern Indiana are food insecure – these neighbors, co-workers and relatives live in the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.
- An estimated 32% of households in northern Indiana report at least one member with diabetes.
- An estimated 64% of households in northern Indiana report at least one member with high blood pressure.

We *can* create healthier communities.

What if the Food Bank could reduce food waste in the communities we serve? Creating partnership with universities, restaurants, hospitals, hotels and convention centers, cities, towns, grocers, growers and manufacturers. We could feed more people and not feed landfills! Rotting food in landfills becomes a significant source of methane.

- The United States has the most productive and abundant food supply on earth, but...food loss and food waste accounts for nearly 31% or 133 billion pounds of the overall food supply available.
- This waste impacts food security and has great impact on resource conservation.

What if we began to see food differently? Food that is too big, too small, too bumpy, too leafy, too spotted and blemished, too ripe. Food that is imperfect but still perfectly delicious.

Let's change our mindset that ugly isn't edible.

You'll hear more from the Food Bank in the coming months on more sustainable ways that we can feed the hungry.

The Food Bank partnered with Farm Credit and Farms to Food Banks to glean tomatoes with volunteers at Rice Farm in Wanatah.





Something to **Act On**

How many ways can we say thank you? Each year, we take the opportunity to do so as we think about tucking back the final page on the calendar. In 2016, each month offered something for which to be grateful and, of course, our volunteers and donors were at the forefront. From sorting food secured by our teenager-led Student Hunger Drive to manning our summer time Mobile Pantry program, people made personal sacrifices to help our organization be successful in our mission to alleviate hunger.

With just a few weeks left, we know we'll continue to deliver much needed food to struggling families, and we know our unbelievable donors will deliver with the types of resources we need to do so. So, allow us to thank you all in advance.

With gratitude,

Milt Lee
Executive Director and CEO



SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016
WWW.EDDYCOMMONS.COM

Pancake Breakfast

with **Santa & Mrs. Claus**



- \$6 Tickets or \$10 at the Door
- Seating Times: 8am, 9am, 10am at Brothers Bar and Grill

Sponsored by: Professional Santa Photos are available for \$8 during the breakfast.



All proceeds benefit the Foodbank of Northern Indiana

Food Finders

To meet the demand for emergency food assistance, the Food Bank continues to actively seek and partner with local and national manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, food growers, packers and grocers to procure more protein, produce, dairy and shelf-stable items to distribute through our member agencies.

Through the third quarter of 2016, the Food Bank distributed 4,405,287 lbs of product through its network of member agencies.

Fresh Thyme began participating in our retail reclamation program this summer. Staff has continued spending time educating retailers about the variety of products our member agencies could use through our retail reclamation program.

Agency Partner **News**

Our partner food pantries continue to see large numbers of clients and long lines. At least seven of our partner pantries regularly serve more than 500 families each month. Says one pantry director, "Our clients love that they can get fresh produce, bread and meat, provided by the Food Bank. They've learned the delivery schedules, and on the days when they know the Food Bank truck is going to make a delivery, I see lines of clients all the way around our building, hoping to get fresh foods for their families. The canned goods are great and we appreciate them, but there is just something about fresh seasonal produce!"

We'd like to welcome the new agency partners who have joined forces with us to fight hunger in our community.

- **Wee Care Food Pantry** is housed in the upstairs of a retail establishment in Michigan City and is already serving over 50 families weekly, even though they've only been open a few weeks.
- **St. Joseph Conference of St. Vincent DePaul** has operated a food pantry for many years but just recently partnered with the Food Bank. They make deliveries of pantry goods to clients in their neighborhood.
- **Transformation Ministries** has opened an afterschool tutoring program for South Bend area students and are offering healthy and nutritious snacks to the children every weekday.

Mobile Food Pantry **Statistics**

County	# of distributions	Pounds	Individuals	Households
Elkhart	13	79,247	4,869	1,381
Kosciusko	5	20,802	1,560	438
Marshall	4	16,618	893	286
Starke	14	64,525	3,393	1,251
LaPorte	15	86,442	4,969	1,557
StJoseph	3	12,800	1,028	286
TOTAL	54	280,434	16,712	5,199

Due to the production schedule of Feeding Matters, these numbers reflect mobile food pantries through September 30, 2016.





Grant to Benefit Senior Nutrition Program

The Food Bank of Northern Indiana recently received a grant of \$7,500 through the Feeding Those in Need program, which aims to help feed those who are hungry or are food insecure

The grant program is a brand-new initiative of The Glick Fund at Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF), a part of Glick Philanthropies. The inaugural grants, totaling more than \$250,000, went to 38 organizations across five states.

Gene and Marilyn Glick instilled philanthropic values in their own family and in the institutions they created, including the Gene B. Glick Company, which is one of the largest privately owned

property management firms in the U.S. Today, their legacy lives on through the generosity of the Glick Philanthropies (including the Glick Family Foundation and The Glick Fund), the members of the Glick family and the Gene B. Glick Company.

The goal of Feeding Those in Need is to increase access to nutritious food in the communities where Gene B. Glick Company apartment communities are located. All grantees were nominated by local Glick staff, who gave input about area food programs and which organizations could best make use of the funding. This grant will benefit the Food Bank's Senior Nutrition Program.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH™



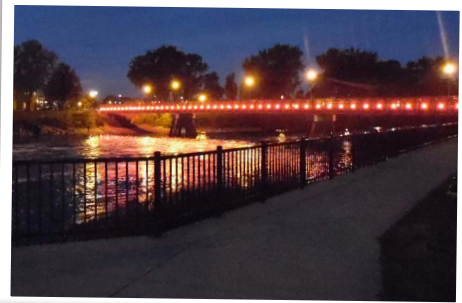
Throughout the month of September, the Food Bank engaged with the community to go orange for hunger and inspire people to take action and raise awareness that 14% of the residents of northern Indiana are food insecure – these friends, neighbors, co-workers and family members don't have enough to eat.

Special thanks to these partners who helped us "Go Orange" for hunger awareness throughout the month of September.

- ABC 57, WNDU and WSBT/Fox Michiana news anchors and reporters wore orange on Hunger Action Day. 95.3 Michiana News Channel and the South Bend Tribune helped us promote Hunger Action Month activities and ways to engage.
- Mayor Dave Wood lit Central Park's Riverwalk Bridge orange in recognition of hunger awareness in our communities.
- Jordan Automotive Group employees wore orange ribbons throughout the month to promote hunger awareness in our communities.
- Bendix Coffee, Chicory Café, Fiddler's Hearth, Just Goods and South Bend Brew Werks team members all wore orange Hunger Action Hero t-shirts on Hunger Action Day and helped us promote hunger awareness throughout the month with special promotions, including SOUL Coffee sales, a special brew, Hunger Action Brown and restaurant donations.
- First Federal Savings Bank of Warsaw, the Islamic Society of Michiana, Dr. Jeffrey Mader DDS, South Bend Zombie Walk and Unity Medical and Surgical Hospital conducted Hunger Action Month food drives.
- Forty community leaders participated in our Hunger Action Hero Paper Plate Campaign.
- Countless volunteer groups that assisted with sorting, packing and serving at the Food Bank throughout the month.
- Community residents who wore orange in support of our cause on Hunger Action Day and throughout the month.

It starts with a color. Together, we can solve hunger™.

Wind-Up



The City of Mishawaka lit Central Bridge Orange in support of hunger awareness part of the month of September.



IMGD students enrolled in South Bend Community School Corporation's Career and Technical Education create art to bring awareness to hunger during Hunger Action Month.



Chuck and Ellen Ball, Hunger Action Hero volunteers, who restock the Community Food Pantry every Monday morning.



Faculty, staff and students at Chandler Elementary School in Goshen "Go Orange" for hunger awareness on Hunger Action Day.

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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 (FIH) and United Way.

The Food Bank of Northern Indiana is a proud member of the National Diaper Bank Network.



Beginning in February 2016, Press Ganey has provided 10 volunteers at the Food Bank the first Tuesday of the month to assist with the distribution of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and any other areas they can help. In addition, they hold multiple food and funds drives.

We Love our Volunteers

The Food Bank partners with many companies and organizations throughout our six-county service area to provide meaningful volunteer experiences. Volunteering is a great reason to get up from your desk, get out of the office and create memorable team experience helping those in need. Volunteering as a team with your business or organization is not only beneficial to the Food Bank, but to your business or organization as well.

Said Tina Durst, Press Ganey, "Press Ganey prides itself on supporting our local communities through our annual Community Service Day, our monthly volunteer commitment, as well as our multiple food drives and donations. We are aware of the great need in Michiana and across the country for those who would otherwise go hungry without assistance from the Food Bank and its volunteers." She added, "The positive impact our volunteer commitment and donations have on the Food Bank extends to Press Ganey and our associates. Our efforts remind us to be thankful for what we have and the opportunity to help others."

The Food bank requires an average of 25 volunteers daily to maintain our facility's operations. Opportunities include food sorting, filling Food 4 Kids Backpack food bags, inside/outside facility maintenance, filling senior nutrition bags or stocking and assisting clients in the Community Food Pantry of St. Joseph County.

Can we count on your support? For more information, please call (574) 232-9986 ext. 137.

We Need to Feed the Hungry and the Only Prescription is...

MORE COWBELL!

Saturday, May 13, 2017, marks the 25th Annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, presented by the National Association of Letter Carriers. Stamp Out Hunger is the nation's largest one-day food drive and the Food Bank of Northern Indiana's largest drive each year.

Our goal is to collect 100,000 lbs in St. Joseph County. Food collected will help our member agencies restock their shelves for the summer months when the need is high and food donations are extremely low.

In recognition of this special anniversary, we're recruiting 25 St. Joseph County businesses to participate in the inaugural **More Food More Cowbell Challenge**. Participants will commit to raise at least 2,000 lbs of non-perishable food items from April 24 – May 12, 2017. The Food Bank will provide orange collection barrels for this drive. The business that raises the most food will win a traveling Cowbell Traveling Trophy and one to display in your office.

Hunger is a community issue. We need lots of community support (and lots of cowbell) to reach our 100,000 lb goal.

Who is ready for the More Food More Cowbell Challenge? Contact Marijo Martinec at mmartinec@feedingamerica.org or (574) 232.9986 ext. 124 for more information.

food bank
OF NORTHERN INDIANA



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