



FOOD BANK OF IOWA

FALL 2019

A FOOD BANK OF IOWA NEWSLETTER

Mission

We provide food for Iowa children, families, and seniors to lead full and active lives, strengthening the communities where they live.

Vision

A hunger free Iowa.

Our service area



The Food Bank of Iowa distributes to approximately 175,000 Iowans via more than 625 partners in 55 counties.

The Food Fleet

Food Bank of Iowa uses six trucks and three vans to deliver and rescue food across 55 counties!



SUPPORTING SCHOOL PANTRIES

Last year, in addition to providing 150,307 backpacks throughout the school year, the Food Bank of Iowa team was hard at work increasing the number of school pantries we serve. A school pantry works just like a conventional pantry, but it's conveniently located on-site at a school for families of students in need.

School pantries are operated by the hard-working faculty at each school. We know that teachers and school administrators are tasked with a lot each day so any extra support given to set up and maintain these school pantries helps alleviate additional resources and efforts needed on behalf of the school staff.

Last school year, the school pantry program served 99,247 individuals and overall, school pantries received 893,029 pounds of food from Food Bank of Iowa.

Over the coming year, our goal is to continue expanding the school pantry program to ensure children and families across the state have access to nutritious food. We are able to keep expanding the reach of our school pantry program because of generous gifts from supporters like you.

There are many opportunities available to help support childhood hunger programs that assist the one in seven children suffering from food insecurity in your community. If you would like to sponsor a school-based program in your community, contact Bergetta Beardsley at 515-867-2892 or bbeardsley@foodbankiowa.org.

A Note From Our CEO

Dear Friends,

The heat, humidity, and mosquitoes of summer are behind us and most of fall is a wrap. We are coming into my favorite season of the year — the holiday season. You are probably planning your family Thanksgiving dinner and deciding whether to serve green bean casserole or sweet potatoes with marshmallows.

As you enjoy a sumptuous feast, your family, like mine, may go around the table sharing that for which they are most grateful. Here at Food Bank of Iowa, I have many reasons to be thankful this year.

I am thankful to our more than 310 wonderful food donors who provided 8,198,623 pounds of fresh produce, pasta, milk, eggs, pork, and more — great sources of healthy nutrition for folks who can only afford a diet high in carbohydrates and calories.

I am thankful for nearly 8,000 incredible volunteers who worked over 21,000 hours (sometimes performing the unglamorous task of sorting onions) to help fulfill our shared mission of a hunger free Iowa.

I am thankful for warehouse, cold storage, transportation experts, and other industry specialists who pitch in when we ask for help.

I am thankful for a visionary and supportive board of directors and many strategic committee members who give generously of their time, wisdom, and resources to make certain Food Bank of Iowa is able to help 175,000 Iowans struggling with food insecurity.

I am thankful for the leadership at 625 partner agencies across our 55-county service area who receive nutritious food from us and distribute it quickly to their neighbors in need. Pantries, homeless shelters, halfway houses, day cares, after school programs, congregate meal programs, etc.

I am thankful to 100 school administrators and their counselors and nurses who allow us to place food pantries in their nook and cranny spaces and make it possible to serve thousands of families so their children can grow, learn, and thrive.



I am thankful for the volunteers and donors who support the Backpack Program sending 5,367 bags of food home each Friday with children who don't know if they will otherwise have weekend meals.

I am thankful for the efforts of this team of tenacious and passionate hunger fighters — Food Bank of Iowa employees, partner agencies and school leadership, community partners, volunteers and generous donors. WE are the team.

Together, WE provided 15.5 million pounds of food to our friends and neighbors in need. WE are working together — pulling in one common direction and accomplishing more than we ever could alone. WE do make a difference in lives of hundreds of thousands of Iowans.

I am abundantly grateful for you. Because of your generous support, neighbors struggling with hunger will be able to share a nutritious holiday meal with their families. With your help, perhaps they will be able to ponder serving green beans AND sweet potatoes. Why not both?

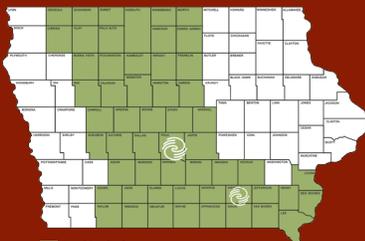
Thanks for being on the team. I wish you a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Book". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michelle Book
Chief Executive Officer
Food Bank of Iowa

www.foodbankiowa.org

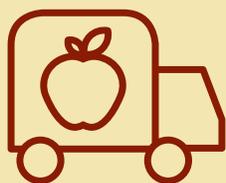


MILES, MILES, MILES

The Food Bank of Iowa service area covers **30,000 square miles** across the state!

YEAR IN REVIEW

Over the past year at Food Bank of Iowa...



Provided **1,313,936 lbs** through **316 mobile pantry** program distributions



Received **21,654 hours** of volunteer service, valued at more than **\$500,000**



Distributed **193,212** Backpack sacks to **children** struggling with food insecurity



Served **10,572,098** meals to **Iowans in need**



Distributed **15,509,245 lbs** through a network of over **600 partner agencies**

WITH GRATITUDE

Our thanks go out to the following organizations for their generosity in supporting our work and mission:

- **Barilla:** 401,964 lbs of pasta and sauce
- **Anderson Erickson:** 37,172 lbs of milk, yogurt, and dips donated
- **Bimbo Bakery:** Volunteers picked up donations 218 times and collected 124,855 lbs of bread and bakery items
- **Des Moines Cold Storage:** Provided in-kind cold storage allowing us to accept food we would have otherwise had to turn down
- **General Mills** donated 208,464 lbs of cereal and snacks
- **Mid-America Logistics Group** donated 310,598 lbs of juice
- **Hormel** donated 84,534 lbs of protein
- **Perishable Distributors of Iowa** donated 122,849 lbs of a variety of dairy, meat, and other perishable items and are a great resource for questions about warehousing, efficiency, and logistics
- **Picket Fence Creamery** donated over 73,000 lbs of fresh milk
- **Summertime Potato** sets aside 'not-so-pretty-but-still-edible' potatoes for us to the tune of 48,327 lbs last year

We have great gardening partners in our local correctional facilities:

- **Newton Correctional Facility** planted, grew, and harvested 110,091 lbs of potatoes, peppers, and more

- **Mitchellville Correctional Facility** planted, grew, and harvested 19,318 lbs of sweet corn
- **Ft. Madison Correctional Facility** planted, grew, and harvested 21,060 lbs of watermelon

Thank you to local farmers and grocery stores for donating:

- **Iowa Egg Council, Iowa Pork Producers, Iowa Beef Council, Iowa Sheep and Lamb, Iowa Turkey Federation, and Midwest Dairy** participated in our first ever food rescue day at the Iowa State Fair
- **Smithfield Foods** donated 154,401 with 99,105 lbs being donated through Armour-Eckrich Meats
- **Aldi:** Donated 173,927 lbs across 16 stores
- **Costco:** Donated 39,084 lbs
- **Fareway:** Donated 274,114 lbs across 20 stores
- **Fresh Thyme in Ames:** Donated 107,609 lbs
- **Hy-Vee:** Donated 800,555 lbs across 26 stores
- **Kum & Go:** Donated 128,392 lbs across 24 stores
- **Kwik Star:** Donated nearly 5,000 lbs in their first year partnered with Food Bank of Iowa
- **Sam's Club:** Donated 635,691 lbs across 3 stores
- **Target:** Donated 498,390 lbs across 12 stores
- **Trader Joe's:** Donated 90,206 lbs
- **Walmart:** Donated 1,896,130 lbs across 31 stores

FOOD BANK OF IOWA VOLUNTEERS HONORED WITH GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER AWARD

Fulfilling our mission would be impossible without the generous donation of time from thousands of volunteers. Last year, Food Bank of Iowa was fortunate to receive support from nearly 8,000 volunteers who provided over 21,000 hours of support.

On September 27, five Food Bank of Iowa volunteers were honored with the Governor's Volunteer Award at a reception recognizing dedicated individuals who volunteer their time and talent to organizations across Iowa.

- **David Kline** picks up food from various food drives and food rescue partners. David's commitment to Food Bank of Iowa made it possible to expand food rescue programs and optimize our food rescue effort.

- **Orval Byrd and Carla Peterman** are two long-time volunteers who were key in keeping volunteer activities running before, during, and after our major building renovation. They are still onboard post-renovation, ensuring volunteer operations run smoothly.
- **Geneva Gersten** dedicated hundreds of hours to Food Bank of Iowa in the few short months she lived in Iowa. We were sad to say goodbye when she moved out of state.
- **Joe Teff** stepped in as full-time volunteer forklift operator and volunteer coordinator when we had a change of staff and kept volunteer operations running smoothly as we brought a new coordinator on staff.



Emily Shearer (Food Acquisition Program Manager), Orval Byrd (Food Bank of Iowa Volunteer), Joe Teff (Food Bank of Iowa Volunteer), Meghan Myers (Retail Donation Program Manager)

To learn more about volunteering at Food Bank of Iowa, visit www.foodbankiowa.org/volunteer.



BENEFIT FROM GIVING THROUGH YOUR IRA

As the end of the year approaches, there are a variety of options available for charitable giving. If you are 70 ½ or older, gifts may be made to Food Bank of Iowa directly from your IRA without having to report it as taxable income.

To learn more, please contact Bergetta Beardsley at 515-867-2892 or bbeardsley@foodbankiowa.org.



FOODBANK
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