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**Alliant Energy/Feeding America distribute 8,000+ meals to Sheboygan**

**Milwaukee (July 25, 2016)** – More than 8,000 meals (10,000 pounds of food) were distributed to nearly 300 families and individuals facing hunger in Sheboygan, thanks to a mobile pantry sponsored by Alliant Energy.

For Scott Metz, of Sheboygan, the mobile pantry arrived at a critical time for his family of six. “We just got out of homelessness and moved into a house. There is nothing in the cupboards. This is going to help tremendously,” said Metz, who has four children that range in age from 16 – 8. Metz is disabled and unable to work. His wife’s income, he said, just doesn’t stretch far enough.

“Helping Families battling food insecurities is important to us,” said Julie Bauer, executive director of the Alliant Energy Foundation. “Alliant Energy Foundation Mobile pantries are just one way we are able to help our neighbors in need and give back to the community. Our employees take a lot of pride in giving back as well.”

About 20 Alliant Energy employees volunteered to hand out the healthy, nutritious food provided by Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin. Feeding America officials said the mobile pantries are particularly critical to families in the summer as hunger among children spikes when school is not in session.

“When school is out, thousands of children lose access to healthy meals provided by school-based lunch programs. The need for extra meals stresses many family budgets,” explained Charles McLimans, president & CEO of Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin. “Our Healthy Kids, Healthy Summer initiative helps bridge that gap and ensure our children stay well-nourished during the summer months so that they can return to school in the fall healthy and ready to learn. We are extremely grateful to Alliant Energy for their support.”

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***About Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin***

*Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is the largest, private, nonprofit hunger relief organization in the state. Founded in 1982 by the Rotary Club of Milwaukee, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is a local and independent member of the Feeding America network. As the leading provider of private hunger relief in the state, Feeding America collaborates with 572 partner hunger relief organizations, including food pantries, meal programs, shelters, and community-based mobile pantries to provide 18.3 million meals annually to 377,000 people across 36 counties in Eastern Wisconsin. Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin also supports programs that improve food security for people in need, advocates on their behalf, and works collaboratively to solve hunger.*

***Together we can solve hunger.***

*To learn more about hunger in Wisconsin, visit [www.feedingamericawi.org](http://www.feedingamericawi.org).*

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