

A Message from the President



As 2016 draws to a close, I want to take a moment to thank you for the many generous ways you have helped us move closer to our vision of a hunger-free Wisconsin. You have played a vital role in solving hunger in our communities. Because of your generosity:

- 21.3 million meals were provided to families in eastern Wisconsin.
- 1.2 million meals were provided through our mobile pantry program.
- Nearly 500,000 meals were provided through our school pantry program.

As we head into the harsh winter months, I'm asking for your help one more time. Many of the families we serve are making impossible choices. The need to heat homes and provide warm coats for children is weighed against putting food on the table. Those are choices no one should have to make. Your year-end tax deductible gift today will help us take that burden off hundreds of families. Remember, every \$30 year-end gift will provide a senior, a veteran or a child with enough meals for a month.

Again, thank you for your generous support. Together we can solve hunger.

Sincerely,

Charles P. McLimans
President/CEO

Member Highlight

When teachers at Bayview Middle School in Green Bay learned some of their students were hungry and therefore struggling in the classroom, they began buying food to help the families. They soon learned, however, the need was too great.

With the help of volunteers, they opened The Giving Tree, a small pantry in a classroom. In September, the pantry moved to a larger space at Green Bay Community Church, complete with a walk-in cooler and freezer. They also joined Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, which has allowed them to access fresher, healthier food for the families they serve. In October, Feeding America honored The Giving Tree for its efforts to develop a model food pantry.



Look Inside...

to read about how a community is working together to solve hunger



to be inspired by individuals who seek out opportunities to make a difference in our mission



to learn about our partnerships throughout eastern Wisconsin



www.feedingamericawi.org



Thank you for your support!

Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation

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99.1 WMYX

Stuff the Bus Donors

FaB Wisconsin

Rick Hartzheim

Four-Four Foundation

Automotive Dealers Association of Mega

Milwaukee



Around the TABLE

Winter 2016



There's still time to support Food for the Holidays!

FEEDING AMERICA
Eastern Wisconsin
A member of Feeding America



Individuals and families lined up in the cold to receive food at a Brown County mobile pantry.

It Takes Working Together

Every month, we participate in meetings with The Brown County Food & Hunger Network in Green Bay and the Oshkosh Hunger Task Force. "What we've found through our monthly meetings is that a lot more can be accomplished by working together," said Chad Clements, Chairman of the Brown County Food & Hunger Network. "We have a louder voice together and learn from organizations of all different sizes – from small food pantries to Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin."

Those meetings are not only made up of many of our members, but also nonmember organizations who discuss what's going on in our communities and how they can be better served.

"Anywhere from twelve to twenty individuals come to our monthly meetings," said Sue Panek, Executive Director of the Oshkosh Area United Way. "Many of them are members of Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin and are able to speak with representatives there who can answer questions and listen to those members' needs."

We listen to challenges, successes, ideas and stories. We discuss fundraising, nutrition and best practices. We learn and we grow alongside other hunger-relief organizations who all have the same goal – to solve hunger.

“We have a louder voice together and learn from organizations of all different sizes – from small food pantries to Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin.”
- Chad Clements, Chairman of the Brown County Food & Hunger Network



74% of people served by Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin have been forced to choose between **FOOD OR HEAT**

54% of people served by Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin cut back on or missed meals in 2016 because they could not afford food.

Meet Debra.

Debra is a single mother who has been employed by the same company for more than 20 years. Her income makes her ineligible for assistance, yet the high cost of managing her diabetes and caring for her children make it difficult to make ends meet. "I have worked my whole life, never used food stamps, or even been eligible for them, and we are still without food most of the time," she said.

Recently, a friend told Debra about a Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin mobile pantry in Green Bay. "I just can't believe that you actually provide people with fruits and veggies and meat. I'm just so grateful," Debra said through tears. "I came home and made BLTs for lunch. We felt spoiled."



A Joyful Gift

The Dunkin' Donuts & Baskin-Robbins Community Foundation (DDBRCF) has one main goal – to spread joy to children. And when children don't know where their next meal is coming from, it's impossible to feel pure joy. That's why DDBRCF teamed up with Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin in 2007. DDBRCF leads food drives, organizes volunteer days and helps fund programs that provide children with nutritious foods.

In Wisconsin, 1 in 5 children face hunger every day. With the help of partners like DDBRCF, Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin is committed to solving hunger so that every child can reach his or her full potential.



DDBRCF volunteers sort produce during their Employee Volunteer Day in October at our Fox Valley food bank. The group also presented a \$10,000 check.

New Year, New Look

Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin launched its new website! It has a new look and expanded content. Highlights include:

- The Solve Hunger Together blog.
- A member locator feature, which allows those looking for help to simply type in their zip code and find neighborhood pantries and meal programs.
- More information and stories about Hunger in Wisconsin.

Check out the website at feedingamericawi.org.



Healing Through Giving

Not all acts of kindness are random. Often, they're prompted by something much larger.

Different circumstances brought Mark and Al to our annual "Stuff the Bus" food drive in Brookfield, but their goal was the same - they wanted to do something to help others.

After Mark lost his business and fortune to a scam, he relied on help from Waukesha County food pantries to help him provide for his family.

"I went from living high on the hog to not

having a penny," said Mark. Now, he helps others whenever he can. He felt donating \$100 to Stuff the Bus was the perfect opportunity.

Al came to Stuff the Bus because of a different kind of loss. He was on the verge of losing his terminally ill wife and wanted to do something for others in her honor. He drove an hour to buy \$500 worth of turkeys.

"I woke up in the middle of the night and God just put it on my heart," said Al, as he tearfully helped load 60 turkeys into carts.

Mark, Al and hundreds of others who donated



Wes & Elizabeth (left) from 99.1 The Mix broadcasted live at the event and encouraged their listeners to give back; Al (middle) holds one of the 60 turkeys he donated; Two children (right) place their donated Thanksgiving food items on the Milwaukee County Transit System bus.



Helping Hands



Associated Bank Volunteers at the Fox Valley Food Bank (top) and a Food for the Holidays phone bank at Fox6 News in Milwaukee (bottom).

Associated Bank first partnered with Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin six years ago as the Food for the Holidays sponsor. It was a great fit from the start.

Associated Bank is "large enough to leverage resources, but small enough to take it down to the granular level," said Bill Bohn, Executive Vice President of Associated Bank. He sees Feeding America the same way. It's a local food bank with a large network of resources that serves people at a local level. Feeding America's efficiency and commitment to collaboration was also part of what Associated Bank wanted in a partner.

A lot has happened since 2010. "We wanted to build a strong relationship with Feeding America and work together to enhance the well-being of the communities we both serve," said Jill Wiess, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager of Associated Bank.

Associated Bank hosted food drives in its Milwaukee and Green Bay branches and launched a Volunteer Program that "allowed Associated Bank to develop and promote volunteerism across its footprint," said Wiess. Because nearly one half of Associated Bank locations are within Feeding America's service territory, Wiess and her Associated Bank colleagues dreamt of a corporate-wide, cross-organizational food drive that became a reality this year.

"Stock the Box™ for Hunger started November 1 and runs through December as a way to unify our colleagues and the communities where we live and work in the fight against hunger," said Wiess.

Make a Legacy Gift

Invest in the future with a planned gift. Consider including Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin in your will or estate plans or as a beneficiary of a retirement or life insurance account. Many options offer significant tax benefits while meeting your philanthropic goals. Contact Scott Marshall, Director of Development, at 414-831-6323 for more information.

Upcoming Events

Peanut Butter & Jelly Challenge February 1 - 28, 2017



The 2017 Peanut Butter & Jelly Challenge runs throughout February. The program is a great opportunity to build spirit within each participating school. Teachers, principals, PTAs, student councils, scouting programs or clubs can organize a drive. To participate, register your school online at feedingamericawi.org/pbj.

2017 Annual Breakfast February 23, 2017



We are bringing more people together around the table to address the root causes of hunger through new programs and collaborations. Many of these efforts will be highlighted during our Annual Breakfast Meeting at our Milwaukee location. Several partners, donors and volunteers will also be honored with Together We Can Solve Hunger Awards.

Tax Time into Dinner Time



This tax season, Wisconsin residents can turn tax time into dinner time for families and individuals facing hunger. You can make a donation to Feeding America food banks in the state by entering your donation amount on line 26h (short form) or line 35h (long form) of the Wisconsin state income tax form. For more information, see page 15 (short form) or pages 29-30 (long form) in the state instruction booklet or visit the Wisconsin Department of Revenue website.

Grateful Plate June 7, 2017



Save the date for the 11th Annual Grateful Plate Gala, our signature fundraising event that helped us provide more than half a million meals last year! If you'd like more information about sponsoring the event, please email Scott Marshall at smarshall@feedingamericawi.org.

Visit feedingamericawi.org for more information on all upcoming events.