

Food For Thought

Quarterly Update

Quick Bites



Patti Dew Appointed Interim President and CEO

A nationwide search for our next President and CEO has launched in partnership with Kittleman & Associates, a Chicago-based executive search firm specializing in nonprofit executive leadership recruitment. To ensure steady leadership throughout the transition, our Board of Directors has appointed Patti Dew to an interim capacity. Dew brings over 35 years of nonprofit and financial leadership experience across numerous sectors including social services, museums, public accounting, and community foundations.



Appleton's 'Hearts in Harmony' Concert Captures the Spirit of the Season

Our 3rd annual Hearts in Harmony event in December 2025 brought communities together in celebration of generosity, impact, and the holiday season. With tremendous support from partners, donors, and over 600 attendees, the event raised over 275,000 meals for families across Northeast Wisconsin. The night highlighted the power of collaboration and the unwavering commitment of the community, making this year's Hearts in Harmony one of the most uplifting and impactful gatherings yet.



Community Support for our Neighbors Through Winter

With the holidays behind us, we are reminded that hunger persists long after the celebrations end. The cold winter months are especially difficult for families facing food insecurity, and consistent community support is essential. You can help by making monthly gifts, volunteering at our food bank or with local pantry partners, organizing workplace or neighborhood food drives, or simply spreading awareness about hunger. Every action—big or small—helps ensure children, seniors, and families have access to nutritious meals.



Southeast Wisconsin Emergency Food Response Fund Update

When flash floods swept through Milwaukee and Waukesha counties in August 2025, pantries across our network faced devastating food loss, damaged equipment, and flooded facilities. Thanks to generous contributions to Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin's Emergency Food Response Fund, we were able to distribute \$97,000 in relief grants to 11 partner organizations to help them recover and reopen their doors. These funds replaced lost food and equipment, supported cleanup and mold remediation, and repaired critical infrastructure. Thank you!

Upcoming Events

February

05

PB&J Challenge Begins

Help us meet our goal of raising the equivalent of 1 MILLION peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for kids facing hunger. Learn more at FeedingAmericaWI.org/PBJ.

April

01

Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is the perfect time of year to lend a helping hand at our Milwaukee or Appleton campus! View available volunteer shifts at FeedingAmericaWI.org/Volunteer.

April

15

Tax Filing Deadline

Turn tax time into dinner time! Don't forget you can designate Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin as a donation on your tax return.

May

07

Grateful Plate

Join us for an evening of impact, paired with great food and entertainment at Turner Hall in Milwaukee. Learn more at FeedingAmericaWI.org/Plate.