The Food Bank of Northwest Indiana is the largest hunger relief organization in the Region, and the only food bank serving Lake and Porter Counties.

Thanks to the dedication and support of our donors, volunteers, and other friends in the Northwest Indiana community, we distributed more than 4.2 million meals to neighbors in need in 2016.

Our network of 100+ partner agencies remains unyielding in its fight against hunger, and in 2016 served more than 22,000 people and families every month. And that figure only counts the meals distributed... it doesn’t tell you how hard these agencies work to provide encouragement, guidance, and hope to all who walk through their doors.

In our fifth year of the BackPack program, 400 students received a bag of wholesome, kid-friendly food before every weekend or break during the school year. Nearly 23,000 breakfast and lunches were served during our 2016 Summer Food Service Program, providing more than 400 kids and teens with the nutrition they need during the summertime.

The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) for seniors saw significant growth during 2016, increasing from 550 monthly food boxes to more than 700 by the end of its first full year of implementation. With a consistently full waiting list, I believe CSFP will continue to grow and impact senior hunger in a big way.

With a 1,148 square mile service area comprising both rural landscapes and urban and suburban neighborhoods, our approach to serving all neighbors in need must be just as far-reaching. In 2016, the Food Bank’s fleet of hunger relief vehicles traveled countless miles to deliver 642,085 meals through our mobile distribution programs.

The Food Bank’s hunger relief efforts are impacting thousands of lives in immeasurable ways. But with nearly 100,000 people facing hunger in Northwest Indiana, it’s just a fraction of what I believe our impact should be—and will be—in years to come. We cannot do this work without you, our donors, volunteers, advocates, and friends who join the fight for a hunger-free Region. Together, we can build a happier, healthier community for everyone.

With my sincerest gratitude,

Steve Beekman
Executive Director
We provide kids with proper nutrition, so they have the fuel they need to learn, play, and grow. Since 2011, the BackPack Program has worked to bridge the meal gap for students at risk of going hungry over the weekend when the free/reduced breakfast and lunch programs are unavailable.

During the 2015-16 school year, more than 400 students across five school districts received critical weekend meals. That means kids like Jennifer didn’t have to worry about where their next meal would come from, and spent the weekends on what matters most: being a kid.

We are committed to ensuring all children have access to the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow all year long. Because the last thing a child should worry about is having enough to eat.

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

We give children and teens the opportunity to enjoy summer break, without worrying about where their next meal will come from. The Summer Food Service Program ensures kids in need have access to good, nutritious food all year long, even during their summer break from the guaranteed nutrition provided by free/reduced-priced school meals.

Nearly 23,000 breakfasts and lunches were served to more than 400 kids across 12 meal sites last summer, making it easier for kids and families to stay happy and healthy over the summertime.

More than 1,400 volunteers generously gave their time, talent, and kindness to our hunger relief efforts in 2016. These groups, families, and individuals of all ages sorted, packed, and distributed meals to people in need throughout the community.
INSPIRING

League of Hope members inspire action and lead the fight against hunger in Northwest Indiana by giving more than $1,000 each year to hunger relief efforts.

In 2016, 125 League of Hope members provided 895,317 meals to individuals and families across the Region.

COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM

We support the health and dignity of seniors in our community. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) provides a months’ worth of nutrition assistance to low-income seniors across Northwest Indiana.

Every month in 2016, 730 local seniors received regular boxes of nutritious, supplemental food. The Food Bank recognizes the critical issues facing aging adults in our community, and aims to continue growing hunger relief efforts for this vulnerable population.

We rely on a generous and dedicated community of donors, volunteers, friends, and partners to drive hunger relief in the Region. Together, we can build a stronger, healthier community for everyone.

MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Our Mobile Food Distributions reach every community across Northwest Indiana to provide hunger relief directly to people and neighborhoods in need. We strive to increase access to fresh, healthy food for all of our neighbors through weekly Pantry on the Go stops, mini mobile markets, large-scale fresh mobile markets during Hunger Action Month, and special holiday distributions.

We delivered more than 642,085 meals straight to individuals and families facing hunger across Lake and Porter counties, ensuring that all people had access to the nutrition they deserve.
FOOD BANK PARTNER AGENCIES

Our partner agencies man the front lines of the fight against hunger in the community. This dedicated network of 100+ partner agencies shares resources, support, and hope throughout Northwest Indiana to people who need it most.

Every month, Food Bank partner pantries, soup kitchens, and other sites provide critical assistance to more than 22,000 individuals and families in the Region. These hardworking agencies ensure that the children, adults, and seniors we serve are treated with respect and dignity, while providing a safe, welcoming environment:

CEDAR LAKE
Project Love
Chester
Fairhaven Baptist
CROWN POINT
God’s Appointed Place
Holy Spirit Church
St. Mary’s Crown Point
Winfield Township
EAST CHICAGO
Antioch Baptist
Catholic Family Services
Community Fellowship
Greater Destiny Church
Greater First Baptist
House of Glory
James Hunter Building
Meek Baptist
Nicosia Building
Northtown Village Apartment
Salvation Army - East Chicago
St. Luke Soup Kitchen
St. Mark AME Zion Church
The Mission of Jesus Christ
UNO - Dr. Martin Luther King Ctr.
UNO - Pennsylvania Center
West Calumet Housing
GARY
25 Alive Food Pantry
A New Life Ministry
Al Thomas High Rise
All Nations COGIC
Bethel Temple
Brother’s Keeper
Carolyn Mosby High Rise
Christ Baptist Church
Clark Road Genesis Family Ctr.
Embellishments of Christ
First AME
First Baptist Church - Gary
FWO - For Women Only
Gardens on Carolina
Gary Manor Apartments
Gary Muslim Center
Genesis Tower Housing
Gethsemane MB
Glen Park High Rise
God’s Grace Church
Gospel Truth
Healthier Living Charitables
Holy Rosary Conference
Jerusalem MB Church
Linden House
Masjid Al Amin Food Pantry
Miller First Baptist
New Friendship
Northlake Church of Christ
Open Door Church
Peace Baptist Church
Problem Solvers Association
Rapid Assessment Center
Salvation Army - Gary ARC
Sojourner Truth House
St. Andrew
St. Ann’s Conference
St. Mary’s of the Lake
St. Monica & Luke
The Church of God in Christ
The True Church of Jesus Christ
Trinity COGIC
Trinity United
Van Buren Baptist
Veteran’s Village
Wonder Working Word
Zion Progressive
Zion Temple Apostolic
GRIFFITH
Operation Care
St. Timothy Church
HAMMOND
Apostolic of God’s Love
Bethel Congregational
Caring Hands
Charity House Woodmar
First United Methodist
Greater Works Prayer
Mount Zion MB
New Hope MB
St. Joseph’s Conference
HEBRON
Hebron Country Pantry
Salem United Methodist
HIGHLAND
St. James Conference
HOBART
Advancing Christ’s Kingdom
Cornerstone Community Church
Southlake Church of God
LAKE STATION
First Baptist Church
Light of Life Worship Center
LOWELL
St. Edward’s Conference
Trinity Lutheran Church
MERRILLVILLE
Aliveness Project
Christian Revival Center
Faith Temple of Christ
Little Dreamers
New Ebenezer MB
MUNSTER
Salvation Army - Munster
PORTAGE
Iglesia Evangelical de Cristo
Portage Twp. Food Pantry
VALPARAISO
Immanuel Lutheran
New Hope Church of God
The Church of Jesus Christ
Village Hilltop Pantry
WHITING
Calumet College St Joseph

Members of Three Square Society are among the Food Bank’s most dedicated friends. By pledging monthly financial support to the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana mission, they make a big difference... a little at a time.

Last year 87 Three Square Society members provided nearly 10,000 meals every month to people we serve.
We make sure food doesn’t go to waste by working with more than 40 local retail stores to safely rescue good food from being thrown out. More than 30% of donated food is acquired through Retail Rescue.
MISSION
To alleviate hunger by acquiring and distributing food to people in need, promoting solutions that advance self-sufficiency and hunger relief, and leading our region in the fight against hunger.

VISION
To be the leader of a community mobilized to fight hunger and address its causes.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Porter County Purdue Extension Office

Shawn Strack, 1st vice president
Strack & Van Til

Kevin DeVries, 2nd vice president
Dutch Farms

Bob Lowry, treasurer
People’s Bank

Harry Vande Velde, secretary
South Shore Leadership Center

Melvin Branch
BMO Harris Bank

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The Times Media Company

Timothy Traynor
AmeriStar Casino & Hotel

Rabbi Leonard Zukrow
Temple Beth-El

Steve Beekman
Food Bank of Northwest Indiana

Join the fight against hunger today.
Visit foodbanknwi.org to learn more and start making an impact in the lives of our neighbors in need across Northwest Indiana.