



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Impact Report

The Difference You've Made for...



Crystal and Eva

It was a bittersweet fall season for Crystal, her husband, and their 10-month old daughter Eva. "We're excited because Eva just got her first two teeth!" Crystal proudly announced. But, having lost her waitressing job, Crystal was very worried. Her husband works in a factory, but his salary is only enough to cover their monthly bills—with little left over for food.

Generous Food Bank donors helped ensure that Eva and her parents wouldn't go hungry, along with the assurance that if they needed help in future months, the Food Bank would be there for them.

From October–December 2018, the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana helped serve an estimated 1.1 million meals to children and adults across Lake and Porter counties. An estimated 100,000 individuals across Lake and Porter Counties regularly face food insecurity.



Michael

Michael is a police officer in Northwest Indiana. His daughter recently moved back home with her three children. Michael and his wife were doing their best to provide for the family of six, even taking on extra jobs, but the budget was stretched very thin.

One day, Michael noticed the sign outside the Food Bank's new Merrillville location and stopped in to learn more. He left with a list of pantry locations, a Mobile Marketplace schedule, and more information about how the Food Bank and other area agencies can help him and his family.

Filled with hope, Michael says, "Thank you for helping alleviate some of the stress of providing for my family."

Name and image have been changed to protect privacy.

Join These Campaign Leaders

On behalf of countless people in need who have and will benefit by our increased capacity and promising initiatives, the Food Bank expresses its deepest gratitude to our \$100,000+ contributors.

The Food Bank's capacity-building campaign needs more civic leaders and generous individual partners. Will you consider making a significant investment during 2019 to alleviate hunger across our Region? To discuss major giving opportunities, please call Executive Director Steve Beekman at 219-980-1777 x301.

Mary Boomsma

Dutch Farms

Eleanor Leese Trust

Foundations of East Chicago

John W. Anderson Foundation

Silva International

Strack & Van Til



Rooted in Community: Our Growing Vision for a Healthier Region

Providing for emergency food needs has been the Food Bank's primary—but not only—mission. We have always worked toward helping neighbors in need to also achieve long-term self-sufficiency.

From its new location, the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana is **uniquely positioned to support a healthier region for everyone**. Going beyond healthy food assistance, we are working more closely with local partners in healthcare, education, our business community, and our region's philanthropic and social services network to provide supportive resources and future programs to improve families' long-term food security.



Promising Initiatives



The Food Bank will be the first organization in the Region to offer free culinary job training for un-/under-employed individuals seeking long-term solutions to food insecurity. A **Community Kitchen** will serve as its classroom, and the Food Bank will partner with colleges and industry experts to train food service specialists. Participants will gain: culinary education; professional skills; mentorships; finance and resume-writing skills; and networking opportunities.



The Food Bank's **Pay-It-Forward Café** will offer an inviting space where neighbors can enjoy a healthy meal prepared by culinary students, regardless of their ability to pay. Café income will be reinvested in job training programs. Individuals unable to pay for a meal will be able to "pay it forward" with volunteer time.



The foods we eat play a vital role in the way we feel, work, learn, and play. Our **Nutrition Education Center** will provide individuals and groups with hands-on training and demonstrations to help them make healthier choices in purchasing and preparing meals on a limited budget.



An additional four acres of undeveloped land adjacent to the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana offers ample space to create a **community garden** which can be used to grow fresh fruits and vegetables for hunger relief programs, as well as training, education, and community engagement opportunities.

Your generosity is needed to make these efforts a reality. Please consider increasing your level of 2019 support for the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. Visit foodbanknwi.org/growinghope. **THANK YOU!**

Generous Donors Ensure Increased Availability of Fresh Foods

With **cooler and freezer space increasing by 500%** over its original location, the Food Bank's Merrillville distribution center is dramatically increasing its food sourcing of fresh produce directly from local farmers, retailers, and other food suppliers and donors to better serve its agencies' needs. In our first six months, we've acquired and distributed 300,000 more pounds of fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy, and protein compared with the same time frame a year ago! Using today's most **energy-efficient cooling systems**, we are also able to keep foods fresher longer.

Thank You!

Mark Your Calendar for 2019!

Ribbon Cutting!

May 2019—watch for exact date and time
At our new location: 6490 Broadway, Merrillville

Come see how we've grown and learn how you can play an even bigger role with our future hunger relief initiatives.

The Sairée

Sunday, June 9
Aquatorium: 6918 Oak Avenue, Gary

Join us for the Food Bank's signature fundraising event, showcasing the best of our Region! Includes "dinner by the bite," drinks, entertainment, auction, raffles, and more. Proceeds support hunger relief for neighbors across the Region.

On the cover: Crystal and her daughter Eva visited an Indiana food distribution site in late fall 2018 to help them bridge the hunger gap after Crystal lost her job.



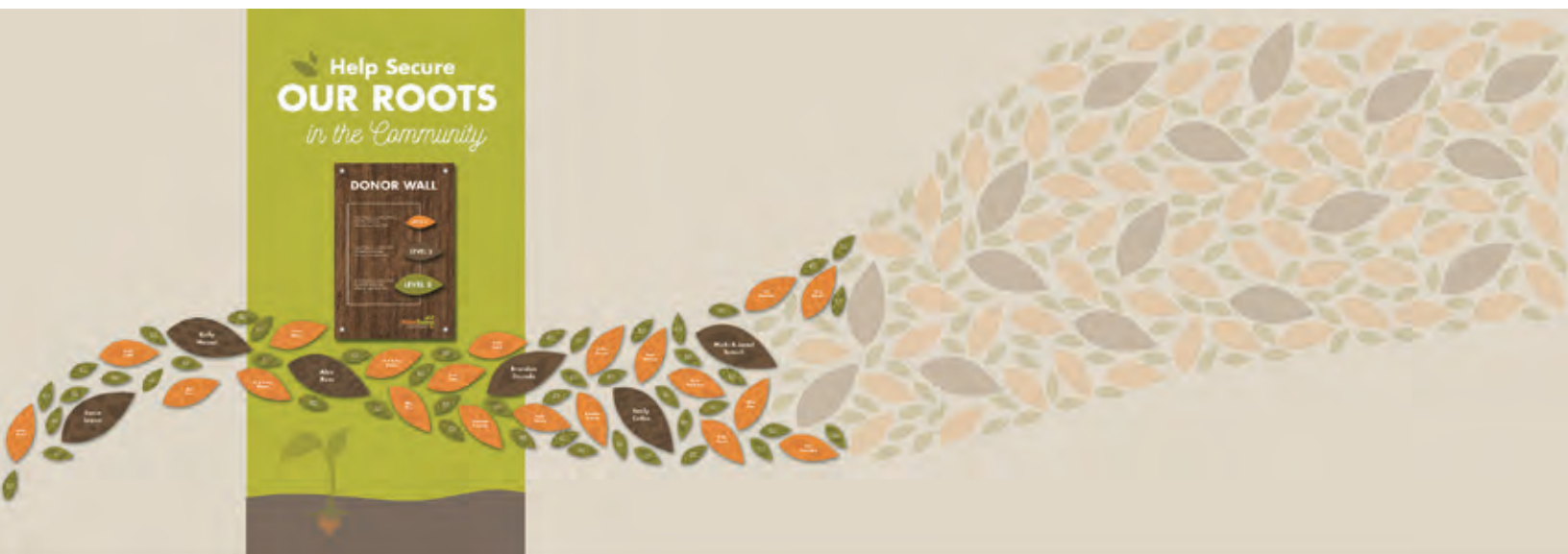
A New Look for a New Year

In 2018, the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana unveiled a new look. Today's logo reflects the organization's ever-growing role in ending hunger across the Region. As we become more deeply rooted in the communities we're serving, donor generosity remains at the heart of all we are able to accomplish.



Volunteer and Community Impact

Square footage for volunteer and community assistance has grown sevenfold inside the new Merrillville food distribution center. The Food Bank can now accommodate 100+ volunteers in one shift, and as many as 500 neighbors can be welcomed at one time during a Mobile Market distribution! This increased capacity is allowing us to reach 25% more aging adults through the Commodity Supplement Food Program, now serving more than 1,300 seniors monthly. And since our July opening, more than 7,000 families have walked through our doors to receive critical food assistance at Mobile Market distributions.



Major Donor Recognition Levels Unveiled

Together, we are rooted in community.

To honor our leading donors to the **Fighting Hunger, Growing Hope Campaign**, the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana is erecting a special **donor wall of recognition**.

As an individual donor, family, and/or organization/business, you are invited to add your name at one of the following investment levels, joining others who are helping to secure our roots in the community.

Choose Your Investment Level to add your personalized leaf!



\$15,000 – \$24,999



\$500 – \$4,999



\$5,000 – \$14,999

Thank You!

In 2017 and 2018, **generous donors contributed \$2,731,000** to the Food Bank's capacity-building campaign.

These contributors enabled the Region's leading hunger relief organization to **expand its food distribution center space by fivefold**, positioning the Food Bank to more fully meet the needs of 100,000 Northwest Indiana neighbors facing hunger.

When fully outfitted and operating at full capacity, the new Merrillville location can **increase distribution from 4 million to 18 million meals** annually.

As the Campaign continues its march toward fulfilling its \$4 million goal, **thank you for generously stepping forward once more!**



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