2022 ANNUAL REPORT



A note from our President and CEO



Just two short years ago, it was unimaginable that we would still be dealing with the impact of COVID-19 today. Yet, we are still feeling the effects that continue to impact the work we do here at the **Food Bank of Northwest Indiana**. Amidst these unforeseen challenges, we have been able to respond by refining pre-COVID impact and post-COVID programming to meet the needs of our neighbors.

Throughout the year, we have focused our efforts on expanding access to nutritious food, increasing food security for individuals and families and building public passion in the fight against hunger. Local school and college food pantry programs helped students and families access the food they needed so they could learn and thrive. And our continued focus on the correlation between hunger and health developed into new partnerships with local health systems.

This all occurred against a backdrop of supply chain bottlenecks and other economic forces that touched every aspect of our operations. Overcoming these challenges was no easy feat. The work for a **hunger-free community** with the help of selfless volunteers, generous donors, hardworking staff, devoted board members, and a network of more than 110 Partner Agencies led to new programs, new partnerships, and investments into the charitable food infrastructure.

It is inspiring to see how many devoted, caring, and generous individuals like you are engaged in the fight food security in Lake and Porter Counties. Together, we can close the gap for all who seek our assistance and ensure that our neighbors have a **stronger and brighter tomorrow**.

As we continue this on-going fight, we're hopeful for the future. The past few years have shown us what we are capable of and what we can accomplish when we all work together. Thank you for believing in us and for standing alongside us. We couldn't do this work without your support.

VAN

Victor A. Garcia

Our Fight Food Insecurity & Hunger

A close look at Food Insecurity in Lake & Porter Counties

Food insecurity is a complex problem tied to a person's ability to meet basic needs. Food insecurity is closely related to poverty and the lack of access to resources. However, not all people living below the poverty line experience food insecurity and people living above the poverty line can experience food insecurity.

Food insecurity does not exist in isolation. There are multiple, overlapping contributing factors such as lack of affordable housing, social isolation, chronic or acute health problems, high medical costs, low wages, and age. Because this is true, addressing food insecurity must extend beyond simply providing short term food assistance, to also include strategies designed to bring relief and support in the long term. 13% of people are food insecure

E NORTHWEST INDIAN

1 in 6 seniors are food insecure

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In collaboration with the Feeding America network, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization, and 200-member food banks, the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana addresses food insecurity and hunger by connecting individuals and families to nutritious food and providing other long term sustainable solutions.



BOXED LUNCHES DISTRIBUTED **MONTHLY** TO GARY'S NEIGHBORS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

13,296

CHILDREN

REDISTRIBUTED TO OUR PARTNER AGENCY NETWORK THROUGH OUR RETAIL RESCUE PROGRAM & SAVED FROM THE LANDFILL

PARTNER

AGENCIES

SERVING NEIGHBORS

PORTER COUNTIES

THROUGHOUT LAKE &

SERVED THROUGH OUR JUVENILE BACKPACK PROGRAM

LBS







5 MOBILE MARKET DISTRIBUTIONS PER WEEK EACH SERVING 240 HOUSEHOLDS, ON AVG



OF EVERY DOLLAR DONATED GOES DIRECTLY TO FEEDING PROGRAMS

\\22,588 HOURS GENEROUSLY DONATED BY COMMITTED

VOLUNTEERS

XX



SUPPORT OUR HUNGER RELIEF EFFORTS

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are the driving force behind the mission of the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. Volunteer as an individual or group to help pack or distribute food to our neighbors. Regular volunteer shifts are available online www.foodbanknwi.org/volunteer

DONATE

Every dollar makes a difference to the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. Just \$1 provides 3 meals for someone facing hunger. Donate as an individual or company. Sponsor an event or one of our hunger relief programs. www.foodbanknwi.org/give

ENGAGE

Help support the mission and work of the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana: become a partner agency, serve on a committee, offer your site as a Mobile Market location, host a food and/ or fund drive, contact elected officials to support legislation advancing hunger relief, or be a social ambassador by sharing our posts. www.foodbanknwi.org

JOIN

As a Three Square Society member, you will receive exclusive benefits and direct communication from the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. Set your recurring gift amount to help ease the hurt of hunger across the Region – because a little becomes a lot. www.foodbanknwi.org/TSS

Contact us at info@foodbanknwi.org or 219.980.1777



FOOD IS MEDICINE

Food Bank of Northwest Indiana launched the Food Is Medicine Program with local Healthcare entities which has allowed us to better serve neighbors facing hunger and other social determinants of health.

JOB TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Our continued relationship with Center for Workforce Innovations allows us to offer neighbors an opportunity for unemployed and underemployed adults throughout the Region to become trained in a growing field, providing essential job skills. This free job training program based at our facility has and will continue to supply hands-on training from experienced warehouse personnel.

CSFP PROGRAM

The Food Bank of Northwest Indiana remains the leading responder in Senior Hunger relief efforts by serving the most seniors in the state.

FAITH FARMS COLLABORATION

As part of Feeding America's Food Insecurity Equity Impact Fund, The Food Bank of Northwest Indiana awarded \$425,000 to and Families Anchored in Total Harmony, Inc. (FAITH CDC) to address Food Insecurity Disparities by Race and Ethnicity in Northwest Indiana. This project will expand Faith Farm's ability to locally grow produce and extend it's useful life by building an on-site freezing operation. This partnership allows the sharing of their harvest with the Food Bank of Northwest Indianathose struggling with food insecurity.





Our Mission

To feed people today, and end hunger tomorrow by inspiring and collaborating with our community.

Board of Directors

Shawn Strack Board President

Bob Jacobs 1st Vice President

Tami Pae Treasurer

Rabbi Leonard Zukrow 2nd Vice President

Jared Tauber Secretary

Members

Jessica Batusic Sam Boufis Iain Downie Lauren Ehardt Ken Greenhill Eric Horon Scott Iverson Bob Lowry

Our Vision A community free of hunger.

Follow us on 🞯 🕣 🕞 Learn more at foodbanknwi.org



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