

11 PARTNERS STRONG: THE POWER OF THE FEEDING INDIANA'S HUNGRY NETWORK



Feeding Indiana's Hungry is the state association of Feeding America affiliate food banks in Indiana. Our mission is to bring together the public and private sectors to effectively feed hungry Hoosiers.

Since 2005, we've worked together with our network of 11 member food banks and 1,800 food pantries and meal programs to provide safe, nutritious food to nearly 900,000 Hoosiers facing hunger each year.

Our network of partners spans all 92 counties and enables people in need to access to food assistance near where they live. Where there is a gap in our network, we serve neighbors directly or build new partnerships.



Food Donations +
Food Purchased At
Scale



11 Member food
banks



1,800
meal programs



900,000
neighbors
served each
year

HOW DO FEEDING INDIANA'S HUNGRY MEMBERS FOSTER A COLLABORATIVE SOLUTION TO HUNGER?

Our 11 member food banks source and distribute more than 130 million meals per year, serving 900,000 children, parents, seniors and residents across Indiana.

In order to ensure the highest levels of food safety and nutrition, our members:

- ✓ Maintain and monitor **high food safety standards** for ourselves and our partners to ensure the well-being our region's most vulnerable residents
- ✓ Leverage technology and scale to continuously improve **operational efficiencies across the supply chain and** carefully steward donations
- ✓ **Offer training and resources** to partners to ensure fresh produce, proteins, dairy and more are handled safely, quickly, and made available to residents in dignified settings
- ✓ Connect & convene partners in our network to share information and best practices

FEEDING INDIANA'S HUNGRY IS A PROUD PARTNER STATE ASSOCIATION OF FEEDING AMERICA

All of our members are Feeding America affiliate food banks. As a member of a national network of food banks, food pantries and meal programs, we have access to emerging best hunger relief from peers across the country, can take advantage of federal and national food purchase and donation practices in programs, and benefit from supply chain efficiencies.



199

food banks



60,000

food pantries and meal programs

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Across Indiana, our members distribute 130 million meals each year through our direct meal/grocery programs and network of community partners.



Regionally, our member food banks support pantries and meal programs by supplying food, expertise and collaborative connection so our network can feed more people today and help our community build better futures.



Together, we are bigger, better and stronger than the sum of our parts.

HOW DOES THE FEEDING INDIANA'S HUNGRY NETWORK WORK?

Getting nourishing, safe food to people facing hunger requires a robust infrastructure and a high degree of coordination.



Securing Food

Member food banks secure donations from local and regional food and grocery manufacturers, retailers, shippers, packers and growers and from government agencies and other organizations. We work closely with our partners to match excess food with the pantry and meal programs that need it.



Shipping and Storage

Member food banks receive and safely store donated food and grocery products to ensure perishable and non-perishable food is handled and stored properly.



Distributing Food

Member food banks distribute food and grocery items through 1,800 direct meal services, food pantries and meal programs that serve families, children, seniors and individuals at risk of hunger. Last year alone, they distributed more than 130 million meals to people in need.



Supporting the People We Serve

Member food banks and Feeding Indiana's Hungry also work with programs that connect residents to benefits to remain food secure; educate the public about the problem of hunger; and advocate for ways to protect people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger.

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SAFE STORAGE OF FOOD – FEEDING INDIANA'S HUNGRY MEMBER STANDARDS

Feeding Indiana's Hungry member food banks adhere to the same guidelines that grocery retailers, food manufacturers and restaurants must follow:

- The Current Good Manufacturing Practices for the Manufacturing, Processing, and Packaging, or Handling Human Food developed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- The FDA Model Food Code
- Model Salvage Code developed by the FDA and the Association of Food and Drug Officials
- Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
- Fair Packaging and Labeling Act

Food and grocery products that are donated to Feeding Indiana's Hungry member food banks are carefully handled and tracked throughout the distribution process, so that product retrieval is possible in the event of a recall.

FOOD BANKS

A food bank is the warehouse for millions of pounds of food and other products that go out to the community.



FOOD PANTRIES

A food pantry functions as the arms that reach out to that community directly. Some use mobile food pantries, which reach people in areas of high need.

SAFE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD – PARTNERS, PANTRIES & PROGRAMS

Feeding Indiana's Hungry member food banks work with 1,800 local partners to distribute food to people facing hunger in Indiana.

Our member food banks train and monitor our partners to provide safe, easy and nearby access to food assistance, which ensures:

- 1) **Adherence to Food Safety Standards.** The CDC estimates 48 million people get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die from foodborne diseases each year in the United States. Feeding America food banks ensure that our neighbors (including children, the elderly, and individuals with illnesses or disabilities) are provided with safe, nourishing food.
- 2) **Access to Nutritious, High-Quality Food.** Adhering to food safety standards preserves the nutritional quality of food and prevents food waste.
- 3) **Stakeholder Investments Reach Intended Recipients.** Private donors and government entities want to be sure that their investments reach the communities that need them most. Working with trained partners as part of a network of organizations means that investors can be sure that their donations are being put to their highest and best use, without duplication of services.