

FOOD *for thought*



June 2015

*You Have Helped Us Feed Communities
Across Northwest Ohio for 30 Years!*

Thank you!

30 YEARS

Of partnership with Feeding America 

Toledo Northwestern Ohio FOOD BANK

Feeding communities across
Northwestern Ohio

Our anniversary logo!

This year marks the Toledo NW Ohio Food Bank's 30th anniversary as a Feeding America food bank. As the largest hunger-relief organization in the U.S., Feeding America is in a unique position to efficiently and effectively rescue food. As a FA food bank, we have strategic partnerships with the food industry that enable us to work with people at every step of the food production process to secure surplus food that would otherwise go to waste.

Included in our food rescue efforts is perishable food. Rescuing fresh foods allows us to provide the people we serve with nutritious options. We believe that all the people we serve should not only have food to fill their stomachs, but also the food they need to live active, healthy lives.

Despite our best efforts we realize that too much good food is still going to waste while too many people are going hungry. Consequently, the Food Bank is inspired to continuously build our capacity for food rescue and engage the food industry in supporting our mission.

Coming Summer 2015: "A Grocery Store on Wheels" New Mobile Market to Travel to Food Deserts

We have made it a priority to provide our clients as much access as possible to foods that help promote a healthy diet and lifestyle – foods like fruits, vegetables, lean proteins, whole grains and low-fat/non-fat dairy.

We are excited to announce our new initiative, the **Mobile Market**, a direct response to food insecurity in our service area. The Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that brings nutritional items to communities that would otherwise lack access to healthy foods.

The mission of the Mobile Market is to increase access to healthy food and healthy choices, with an emphasis on reaching those least served in a food desert. A food desert is a district with little or no access to large grocery stores that offer fresh and affordable foods needed to maintain a healthy diet.



Instead of such stores, these districts often contain many fast food restaurants and convenience stores.

The Food Bank received a generous grant from Walmart to design and purchase a specialized truck for this program. This includes storage capacity for shelving, refrigeration, freezers and market supplies. In addition, information on nutritious meals and the benefits of healthy eating will be available at the Mobile Market. During the spring, summer and fall, the Mobile Market will operate in an open-air market with food displayed outside the vehicle. During the winter months, the Mobile Market products will be moved inside our community partner facilities. Our Mobile Market will be on the road in late summer.

Findings from Hunger in America Study 2014

We recently received results from the Hunger in America Study 2014. This national study, done every 4 years by Feeding America to assess need, reinforced many challenges consistently faced by clients.

The Hunger in America study tells the story of programs determined to help clients and their households meet their food needs, and of a population that critically needs this assistance. Many agencies face a growing demand for help. The clients seeking assistance have varying levels of education, training and language skills. Many have health conditions that prevent work, and many of those working have found only part-time or part-year jobs.



Further information can be found on our website, www.toledofoodbank.org

You can make a difference today.

- 68% of client households are at or below the federal poverty level**
- 63% of households choose between paying for food or medicine**
- 71% of households choose between paying for food or utilities**
- 68% of households choose between paying for food or transportation**
- 56% of households choose between paying for food or their rent**
- 56% of clients would like additional fresh fruits & vegetables**
- 52% of clients request dairy products such as milk, cheese or yogurt**
- 51% of clients request protein like meats**



Even the youngest among us are hurt by hunger and poverty



Many commonly donated foods are high in salt, sugar or calories, making them poor choices for people with high blood pressure, diabetes and other diet-related health problems. With more people turning to the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank and for longer periods of time, we always need healthy donations – the kind of healthy and nutritious items you’d serve to your own family.

Protein

Tuna Fish
Canned Chicken
Peanut Butter
Canned Beans
Dried Beans
Nuts
Meat Stews

Fruits & Vegetables

Canned Light Fruit
Canned Vegetables
Jellies & Jams
100% Juice
Soup & Broth
Applesauce

Grains

Cereals & Granola
Rice & Oats
Pasta
Macaroni & Cheese
Whole Wheat Crackers
Popcorn

Dairy

Powdered Milk
Evaporated Milk
Personal Care
Shampoo
Toothpaste
Baby Items
Feminine Hygiene

Please, no perishable foods, frozen foods, glass jars or baby food.



Food Drives:

Variety of Ways to Alleviate Hunger

According to the USDA, 17 million children in the U.S. are food insecure.

One great way to get involved in our community on behalf of the Food Bank is to organize a food drive. Traditionally, food drives are when people or groups collect canned goods to donate to the food bank. It is a community bridging activity with lots of in-person discussions about hunger and need. Food drives like these are a rewarding effort to both participant and recipient.

However, most people donating to these drives will go and purchase their items at full retail cost.

Did you know that...for every \$1 the Food Bank receives directly, we can provide 4 nutritious meals for our neighbors in need? This means if someone donates \$6 to the Food Bank, they can stretch their contribution into 24 meals, unlike if someone spends \$6 at a store where they may get one 5lb. bag of rice, 3 cans of tuna, or 3 cans of soup and only come out with less than 10 meals provided.

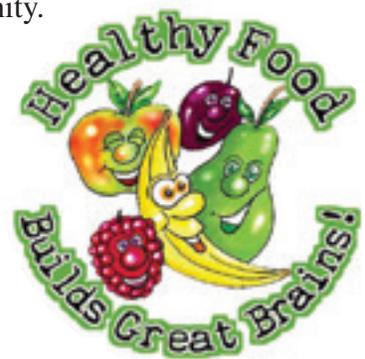
A dollar is not just a dollar at the Food Bank!

Going beyond the traditional food drive and hosting a VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE can secure more meals for local hunger relief efforts. One of the perks of virtual food drives is that it is not fixed to any one location to receive donations! People can participate throughout an entire university campus or school district, business chain across multiple towns, or entire metro area with ease.

The Food Bank appreciates all community partnerships and encourages everyone to choose how they would like to participate in relieving hunger in Northwest Ohio. The traditional food drive still has value because it physically connects people in the community.

The virtual food drive has its own value because it can stretch a donation into more meals.

However someone chooses to support the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank will be valued because at the end of the day we all are striving to provide the meal that we hope can relieve our neighbor's hunger.



We appreciate donations of all forms and quantities!

Your Money Is Working Hard!

The Toledo NW Ohio Food Bank has a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Only 17% of charities have received this exceptional designation for sound fiscal management, commitment to accountability and transparency.

That is because **97 cents of every dollar is spent directly on programs and services.** We use your donation to help feed over 576,000 hungry people throughout Northwest Ohio. We have trucks delivering wholesome products six days a week!



Thank you for our food!





24 E. Woodruff Ave.
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toledofoodbank.org



Join us on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/toledofoodbank

Questions? Call our Marketing Specialist,
Laurie, at 419-242-5000

Mission

Our Mission is to enable other community organizations to end hunger. We strive to maximize community resources by effectively obtaining and distributing food through a collection and distribution system.

Over the past 30 years, the Food Bank has distributed over 96 million pounds of food and grocery products to our member agencies. Currently, the Food Bank serves over 300 nonprofit agencies.

*Celebrating 30 Years
of Serving Our
Community!*

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AAM



Beer, wine & food vendors!

Don't miss out on this spectacular event!
General admission tickets only \$15.00!
Purchase tickets online at www.toledofoodbank.org

FEATURING:



Soul, R&B Funk
world-renowned musicians
AVERAGE WHITE BAND



"Bluz Queen"
CLAUDETTE KING,
daughter of blues legend B.B. King

Rhythm & Blues
Singer, Songwriter
TINSLEY ELLIS



Featured performers at
Country Music Awards
THE STICKERS



Friday, June 26, 2015
4:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Promenade Park, downtown Toledo

General admission tickets only \$15.00!
Purchase tickets online at www.toledofoodbank.org



Together we can end hunger.

A proud member of **FEEDING AMERICA**