

Food For Thought

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Fall Newsletter 2011

President's Message



"Poverty is the worst form of violence."

- Mohandas Gandhi

Poverty, even here in Northwest Ohio, brings with it a devastating reality of hunger. A single mom, working two minimum wage jobs in Toledo, still struggles to put food on the table for her kids. A man from Napoleon goes without, while waiting for his unemployment. In Port Clinton, seniors living on social security don't have enough food to last the whole month. This is their reality, but they don't face it alone. In fact, in Northwest Ohio 18.9% of our residents are food insecure, or are unsure of when their next meal will come.

How can we combat this growing need and unnecessary pain? Give, volunteer, donate whenever possible. Don't worry about how much time or how much money. Every little bit counts. Here at the food bank we provide volunteer opportunities Monday through Friday and Saturday mornings in our warehouse, and at numerous special events.

We greatly appreciate all of our donors, volunteers and supporters. We encourage everyone to come out and lend a hand. We would love to see you.

Sincerely,

James M Caldwell

President & CEO



How Does It Work?

The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank is a non-profit organization that has distributed more than 76 million pounds of food to our member agencies in the past 26 years.

We serve more than 300 non-profit agencies in 8 counties in Northwestern Ohio (counties listed on the last page). These member agencies include soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, non-profit daycare centers, rehabilitation centers, group homes, holiday food basket programs, and special programs for children and the elderly.

Our member agencies served more than 1,168,000 meals in soup kitchens, shelters and supplemental feeding sites in 2010 alone!



What Do We Do?

Many people simply do not know what happens when they donate to the Food Bank. After food arrives, our staff and volunteers sort and repackage the items. It is then stocked in our warehouse, making the items easily accessible for any of our 300 members to come in and access the food. The member agencies then take the food back to their facility, where it is distributed to those in need. What if the agencies can't make it in to the food bank? Our drivers deliver to all 8 counties!

Supported Programs

Ohio Agricultural Clearance Program (OACP)



The OACP is an innovative collective

effort of the Ohio General Assembly, the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks, member food banks and agencies, the agricultural community and local food processors.

It is a collaborative effort with the primary goal of providing fresh produce and processed food products to clients while improving the capacity of member agencies to feed hungry individuals.

Benefits of this program include preventing waster, providing nutritious commodities for the food banks, and reducing losses for farmers and growers.

Back Pack Program

The mission of the BackPack Program is to help provide hungry children with nutritious and easy to prepare food at times when other resources are not available, such as weekends and school vacations.

This program provides backpacks filled with food that is child-friendly, non-perishable, and easily consumed. Backpacks are discreetly distributed to children on the last day of school before a weekend or a vacation.

Co-Agency Food Program (COA)

In response to requests from our agencies for additional high-protein items, the Food Bank started the COA. COA products purchased by the Food Bank in larger quantities at wholesale cost to supplement the products traditionally donated.

Ohio Food Purchase Program (OFP)

The OFP is a program administered by the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks. This program has significantly helped are food pantries to distribute additional food baskets to new clients. OFP consists of high protein and staple items distributed at no extra cost to help food pantries stretch their food dollars further.



In 2011, the Kids Café has served over 2,800 plates of



Mobile Food Program

The Mobile Food Program began in January of 2009 to serve our over 300 qualified member agencies of the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank. Participants in the program are given the opportunity to provide additional tons of bread, fresh produce and other items to those in need. The food is brought to the member agency location either on the day or the day before the distribution date at no extra charge.



Kids Cafe

The mission of the Kids Café is to help provide hungry children with nutritious meals after school when other resources may not be available to them.

This program provides free meals and snacks to low-income children through a variety of community locations. Our local location is the James C. Caldwell Community Center.

Children are able to gather here and not only have a decent meal, but participate in educations, recreational and social activities in a safe environment with trustworthy supervision.



Mission Statement

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 food collection and distribution system.

2011 Food Bank Staff

- James M. Caldwell—President & CEO
- Barbara Grandowicz—Director of Operations
- Bernice Toney—Agency Relations
- Sarah Baker—Bookkeeper
- Michele Thees—Customer Service
- Jennifer Mirelez—Outreach Coordinator
- Sabrina Meek—Events Coordinator
- Kylee Collins—Donor Relations
- Laurie McLeod—Data Entry Specialist
- Darlene Sopko—Warehouse Leader
- Jerry Johnson—Warehouse Associate
- Seth-David Schleifer—Warehouse Associate
- Roger Gossett—Lead Driver
- Herbert Daniels—Driver
- Peter Spencer—Driver
- Dwight Franklin—Driver
- Kenneth Downs—Driver

2011 Board of Directors

- Chairman Emeritus— Thomas L. Schlachter
- Chairman—Brian Bucher
- Vice Chairman—Marcia Siemens
- Secretary—Brian Schenk
- Treasurer—John M. Brenner
- Board Members:
- Robert E. Alexander
- Thomas J. Archambeau
- Norman Bell
- James H. Hartung
- J. Michael Hill
- Tim Mathews
- James. M. Murray
- Mark H. Rose
- Dave Selman
- Jeff Volschow

Check Us Out!



Follow us on Twitter:
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toledofoodbank](http://www.twitter.com/toledofoodbank)



Join us on Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/pages/
Toledo-Food-Bank](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Toledo-Food-Bank)



www.charitynavigator.org to see our rating among charities!

Recap of Past Events

- The Toledo Walleye Fill the House Event used tickets sales to help fight hunger.
- The 3rd Annual Fundraising Expo, hosted by the TPS Parent Congress, was at Bowsher High School. This event showcased new and different moneymaking ideas for area schools to incorporate into their fundraising efforts. Admission to this event was a donation of \$1 or a canned good that was donated to the Food Bank.
- The Feinstein Challenge started March 1 and ran through April 30th. This was its 14th consecutive year! Each year, Alan Shawn Feinstein divides up \$1 million among hunger fighting agencies nationwide.
- Chili's teamed up with the Food Bank to raise money to feed the hungry men, women and children in our community. They donated 10% of the dining checks generated from 11:00 am to 11:00pm!
- Big Lots hosted the Friends & Family Day Food Drive twice this year at various store locations.
- Key Bank and The Andersons hosted a 4th Birthday Bash at the Franciscan Theatre on the Lourdes College campus for EPIC Toledo. This carnival party celebrated with food, friends, and fun.

*\$26,672.17
raised!*



- George Winston presented a solo piano concert at the Collingwood Arts Center where we has a display table with food and information set up. Proceeds from George Winston CD sales were donated to the Food Bank.



Notre Dame Academy hosted the "Feedin' the Need" girl's lacrosse scrimmage to benefit the Food Bank. BCSN broadcasted live from the event.

- Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation was held at The Toledo Club. Food, drinks and entertainment were provided. The proceeds went to the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank, Toledo GROW's, Toledo Day Nursery and the Aurora House.
- The 2nd Annual Blues & Jazz Festival was held at Centennial Terrace and included 4 bands, a character artist and a physic. Sponsorships for this event were provided by many local companies and the ticket sale proceeds went to the Food Bank to help feed the hungry.
- The Sportway of Toledo hosted a 2nd Annual Family and Fun Day to benefit the Food Bank. In exchange for 3 cans of non-perishable food items, a wrist band was given for admittance.
- The 2nd Annual Route 66 Summer Party was hosted by Cass Road Baptist Church in Maumee. This event included music, classic cars, games, and a silent auction.
- June, July and August Champion Window donated 50 lbs of food to the Food Bank for every home appointment set and an additional 100 lbs for every sale.
- The Gap Give & Get event was a way for customers to get 30% off their purchase and a way for Gap, Banana Republic, and Old Navy to donate 5% of purchase proceeds to Feeding America, which benefited the Toledo Northwestern Food Bank.

*1,418 pounds
of food donated!*

Spotlight on...



2,734,415 pounds of food distributed from January 1st to June 30th.



Our Mobile Pantry has distributed 641,872 pounds.



According to Feeding America Map the Meal Gap, 18.9% of households in Northwest Ohio are food insecure, living day to day not knowing when or where their next meal will be.

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2010 Agency of the Year

Congratulations to the Restoration Fellowship Church on their recognition as the Food Bank's 11th Agency of the Year. Restoration became a member agency in September 2008, and in 2010, distributed 108,861 pounds of food and non-food items to 3,746 families. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the Bryan, Williams County community.



Bernice Toney, Agency Relations, presents the award to Millie and James McCauley from the Restoration Fellowship.

Ohio Benefit Bank

The Ohio Benefit Bank is an online service that can help connect Ohioans that are struggling to make ends meet with work supports and other benefits. It helps to eliminate choice between paying rent or buying food, which is a reality that a growing number of people are facing here in Northwest Ohio. People can go online to apply for SNAP (formerly known as food stamps), child care subsidy, healthy start/healthy families, HEAP, and numerous other work supports. To find out if you, or someone you know, could be eligible for any of these programs a three minute phone call or a visit to the website (ohiobenefits.org) is all it takes. For any questions, or if extra assistance is desired in filling out the applications, call our AmeriCorps VISTA members at 419.729.4654 and they can direct you to the closest Benefit Bank Site near you.

THE *Ohio*
BENEFIT BANK
neighbors helping neighbors

Current & Future Events

Nothing Campaign

Nothing is all around you. Look around at work, in your neighborhood and at your place of worship and you will see faces of hungry friends and neighbors. Throughout the last quarter of 2010, Ohio's emergency food assistance network, which consists of 12 Feeding America food banks and some 3,000 member agencies, helped more than 2.1 million Ohioans in their time of need.



The Ohio Association of Second Harvest Food Banks and the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank in partnership with Charter One and Marco's Pizza launched the Nothing Campaign in Northwest Ohio. This campaign started in July and will run through the end of September.

Cans of Nothing are empty and represent a reality even for people here in Northwest Ohio. They can be purchased for \$3. Something can be done about Nothing by filling this can with change from you, friends, family, and co-workers. Once brought back to the food bank, even one can will replace nothing with nourishing meals for someone in dire need of food. Proceeds from each can of Nothing will go to support the efforts of The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank.

Making a donation to the Nothing campaign is easier than you think! You can donate online at www.nothing.org/ohio or via text message by sending **FOODBANK** to 85944 to donate \$10 now.

NOTHING
AN UNNECESSARY TRADITION

CAN END HUNGER IN OHIO.

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANKS

Charter One Foundation™

Second Harvest FOOD BANKS

Do something at Nothing.org
Donate \$10 right now by texting **FOODBANK** to 85944.

Hunger Action Month

September is Hunger Action Month, when we ask everyone in America to take action to fight hunger in their community, all month long. Hunger Action Month is your opportunity to join a movement that has a real and lasting impact on our effort to feed more Americans than ever before. Whether it's by advocating and raising awareness, making donations, or volunteering, individuals can find the way that's right for them to make a difference during Hunger Action Month.

Future Events

- Operation Turkey –runs from October 15 through December 10 to help us distribute Turkeys to our over 300 member agencies to help the less fortunate in the community have a decent holiday meal.
- 13th Annual Harvest of Thanks- dinner, dance and auction October 22nd at Gladioux Meadows in Toledo.
- An unprecedented 3rd annual Big Lots Friends & Family Day Food Drive will be held on October 9th, at various locations throughout Toledo from 9am to 9pm. A 20% off coupon is available.
- Scouting For Food– starts in November and is a partnership between the Toledo Northwestern Food Bank and the local chapters of Boy Scouts of America. There are different phases, such as a Door-to-Door Campaign and a Work Site Campaign.



- Empty Bowls– a coming event that offers patrons a soup-kitchen meal with the chance to buy a hand-crafted bowl. These take home bowls are a way to remind those who bought one that their donation will help to feed many empty bowls for those who cannot afford to fill one themselves.

For more information about future events and volunteer opportunities, please contact us!

(419) 242-5000 or volunteeropportunities@toledofoodbank.org