

Contact: Barbara Hofstetter
Human Resources
(419) 242-5000 x 205
bhofstetter@toledofoodbank.org



For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOLEDO NORTHWESTERN OHIO FOOD BANK ANNOUNCES RELIEF MEASURES FOR THE COMMUNITY SURROUNDING COVID-19 CONCERNS

The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank is dedicated to taking all active measures to help with notification and response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and will do our best to offer guidance to our community partners while protecting your staff and volunteers.

For us, it's business as usual. Our staff, drivers and volunteers are healthy. Our fleets will be out in our service areas with agency deliveries and donor pickup. If anything changes everyone will be notified ASAP. We are asking EVERYONE to send in email updates with information on what you are seeing in your community.

Notable Links:

- <http://www.toledofoodbank.org/get-help/> (posters: coronavirus what can you do cleaning; hand washing, vs sanitizing cleanup hazards).
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Ohio Department of Health <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>

###

About Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank

The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank is a non-profit organization affiliated with Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization. The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank serves approximately 250 non-profit agencies in an eight county area that includes; Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Williams and Wood. 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. Over the past 33 years, the Food Bank has proudly distributed over 100 million pounds of food and grocery products to our member agencies. For information, contact the Food Bank at 419.242.5000 or visit us at www.toledofoodbank.org.

About Feeding America®

Feeding America is the nationwide network of 200 food banks that leads the fight against hunger in the United States. Together, we provide food to more than 46 million people through 60,000 food pantries and meal programs in communities across America. Feeding America also supports programs that improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit www.feedingamerica.org.



Dear Citizens of Northwest Ohio,

Our day to day lives as we know it has been dramatically disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank wants to do everything we can to remain open to serve and strengthening our community. We have a contingency plan to approach this newest challenge with hope, but we still need your help.

We are working with our member agencies that distributes food through pantries, shelters and churches to ensure that we will be able to safely and effectively reach those in need.

Our team is preparing to handle the increased need that we will see over the next several weeks with schools closed. People will need food, more than ever at this time. It is crucial for us to step up to help children and their families receive the food they need, but we still need your help.

DONATE:

VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE

Virtual Food Drives are a great way to support the food bank and capitalizes on the bulk purchasing power of the food bank. For every dollar donated in the Virtual Food Drive, the food bank can provide 5 meals!

You can check out at our Virtual Food Drive from our website: [Click Here](#)

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed! Those who are able and NOT in the susceptible group (Adults over 60, those with underlying conditions and young children). Please consider volunteering helping us with general warehousing, cleaning, sorting and stocking within our warehouse.

SAFETY FIRST:

Please follow the guidelines from the public health officials:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; dry hands with a clean towel or air-dry hands
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are unavailable
- Cover your mouth with a tissue or sleeve when sneezing or coughing
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands
- Stay home when you are sick and urge volunteers to stay home when sick.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- If you are not feeling well, stay home.

Even though this set of circumstances is new and fluctuating every day, our role as a diligent respondent has not changed. Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank is the region's local responder for families who struggle daily to meet their food needs. Despite the challenge, we continue to be conscientious, and prepared to interchange.

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. We can do these things because you have been a steadfast partner with us and we are calling on you now, more than ever, to join us once again in this fight against hunger.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Caldwell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

James Caldwell

President & CEO

<https://www.fooddriveonline.org/toledofoodbank/index.php?c=66e1a293>