

## A Green Miracle?

Miracle (mir-uh-kuh l), noun.

1. *An effect or extraordinary event in the physical world that surpasses all known human or natural powers and is ascribed to a supernatural cause.*
2. *Such an effect or event manifesting or considered as a work of God.*
3. *A wonder; marvel.*

Does any of this apply to the goals and the work of Hoosier Hills Food Bank? Number 1 doesn't seem to fit. Many of our donors and agencies are driven by different types of faith traditions and would assert that No. 2 applies. But No. 3 without question describes what happens here...not just at Christmas or the holidays, but all year.

We themed our annual meeting in March with Kermit the Frog's treatise on "bein' green." We talked about how things that seemed ordinary or routine could actually be extraordinary...and about how that applied to the huge, ongoing community effort that starts with donors and volunteers and works its way through agencies and programs to help transform the lives of people by ensuring they have the food they need.

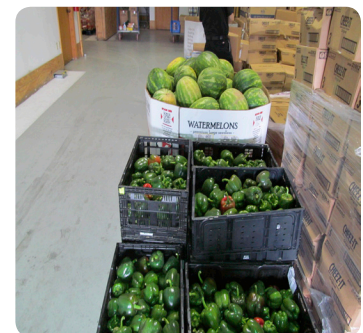
Through the end of November, we've distributed 4,455,943 pounds of food. **That is 232,000 pounds more than in ALL OF 2017...and 158 pounds more than our record year of 2016.** December is one of our busiest months and we've already distributed an all-time record amount of food.

A miracle? Perhaps – depends on your point of view. A wonder? A marvel? Absolutely.

It's an incredible statement about this community. Dozens of agencies, hundreds of food donors, hundreds of financial contributors, thousands of volunteers. Individuals, small businesses, large corporations, churches and places of faith, organizations, elected officials, students, retirees. Agreeing in one voice despite being different from each other:

**Not one child. Not one senior. And not one in between. Hunger is not an option.**

Thank you for your support. And whether your tradition is Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Eid, or simply gathering with friends and family...we wish you joy and happiness now and in the coming year.



**In this Issue: A Green Miracle Article, Holiday Happiness in a Winter Wonderland, Planned Giving statement, Soup Bowl Benefit Announcement, A Final Appeal**

**GIVE ONLINE AT [www.hhfoodbank.org](http://www.hhfoodbank.org)**



# Holiday Happiness in a Winter Wonderland!



November and December are two of the busiest months of the year for HHFB and our partner agencies. As families prepare for holiday meals, travel, guests, gifts and other traditions, budgets become even more strained for those on the margins. Fortunately, many people also step up with food drives and donations. Getting food in and out the door keeps our staff and volunteers busy!



Everyone tries to go the extra mile to make the holidays great for our agencies and clients. We've been busy disbursing lots of food to agencies and we were excited to be able to deliver apples, milk and some other items to support Pantry 279's heroic efforts to provide 1400 families with a Thanksgiving food box in November, and to deliver some food and goodies to Community Kitchen for their annual Thanksgiving grocery giveaway that supplements the delicious meal they make for hundreds of people. We'll have the same partnership with the Kitchen on Christmas Day.

Our Bedford and Mitchell mobile pantries took place the week after Thanksgiving and the menu included ground beef, frozen blueberries, fresh apples, snacks and lots of canned goods. Thanks to support from Lucky's Market and the Martin County Community Foundation we are also able to provide fresh apples, oranges and potatoes to many agencies in December. Our mobile pantry in Shoals will feature all three items.



## Planned Giving

Are you interested in making a lasting impact? Consider including Hoosier Hills Food Bank in your will or estate planning.

Email [office@hhfoodbank.org](mailto:office@hhfoodbank.org) for more information.

## Save the date, 25th Anniversary Soup Bowl Benefit!!

Next year's Soup Bowl promises to be a very special one as we celebrate the 25th annual! You won't want to miss it and tickets will sell out early, so don't wait to get them! Tickets will go on sale January 2 at Bloomingfoods, HHFB, By Hand Gallery, and Goods for Cooks.



Soup Bowl is Sunday, February 17th at 5pm at the Monroe Convention Center.

## MCCSC Food Drives!

A big THANKS to Binford Elementary School for collecting money and buying food in support of Hoosier Hills Food bank. Thank you to Kroger for helping these kids give back to the community. Also a big thanks to Highland Park Elementary for collecting nearly a 1,000 lbs of food through their student council and class competitions.



## A Final Appeal

We are very grateful to all of you who have supported us this year whether through donations of food, money or time. If you've already made a gift to Hoosier Hills Food Bank...THANK YOU!! If you have not yet contributed, or are able to do so again, we ask you to consider a gift today. The truth is we raise 25% of our total annual fundraising and donations income in the month of December. We rely on this month to help us with the holiday expenses we've incurred and to put us in a strong position for the coming year. Donations will drop off in January – they always do – and we need as much support as we can gather this month to end our year in a strong position and ready for the challenges and opportunities of 2019. Any gift of any amount helps!

Thank you for your support!





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**Return Service Requested**

**Our Mission:**

Hoosier Hills Food Bank collects, stores, and distributes nutritious food products to nonprofit organizations, which provide free feeding programs that serve both ill and needy families and individuals.

***Taking the Hunger out of Poverty***

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## **Kroger Community Rewards Program**

Shop at Kroger? Sign up today and part of your spending will come back to Hoosier Hills Food Bank! Just register your Kroger Plus card at the website below and Kroger will donate 2 percent of your bill to HHFB each time you shop. It takes just a second, and our ID number is AC012!

<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>



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