

Thanksgiving: A Time for Celebration and Reflection

We shouldn't take our food or our food assistance network for granted.

What would you do if you had no food? What if you weren't sure you could put together a meal, let alone a turkey and pumpkin pie celebration for your children? Or you thought your grandparents or a good friend was going without?

Most of us don't find ourselves in that situation. While we may have to budget, we can usually go the store and buy the food we need.



But over 37,000 people -including more than 8,400 children- in Hoosier Hills Food Bank's six county service area do sometimes find themselves in that situation because they're food insecure.

Thousands of them will access the services of a food pantry this week. Many hundreds of them will eat their Thanksgiving meal at a public kitchen or shelter.

Our job at the food bank is to supply those pantries, kitchens and shelters with as much food as we can. The only way we can do it is with the community's support.


We rely on donations now more than any time during our busy year. Can you support us with a gift this holiday season? Together, we can make this a season of thanks for everyone.
Happy Thanksgiving!



In this Issue: Season's Greetings, 36th Annual Book Fair, Volunteer Opportunities, Upcoming Food Drives, Member Agency Conference, Welcome New Staff, Children's Art Calendar

GIVE ONLINE AT www.hhfoodbank.org

HOOSIER HILLS FOOD BANK



BOOK FAIR

Thought for Food

Thank you to our sponsors!

Benefactors: City of Bloomington, CWA Local 4818, Duke Energy, Hoosier Energy, Monroe County Veteran Services Office

Patrons: American Legion Post 18, Kiwanis Club of Bloomington, Kritzer Insurance, Monday Morning Book Sorters, Osmon Chiropractic

Donors: Bill C. Brown Associates, Curry Auto Center, NALC Branch 828



Sierra Miller



The Herald-Times



Holidays for Hoosier Hills Food Bank

During the holiday season, the families we serve feel pressure to provide food for themselves and potentially for the friends and family that make up their inner circle. Many struggle throughout the year to feed themselves and their families but find even more pressure at this time of year. It should be a time of reprieve and joy, but that isn't always the case for families in or near poverty.



All our partner agencies step up with special holiday distributions – baskets, meals and comfort foods that help meet the need and lift the spirit. At HHFB, we try to provide as many of those foods as we can – potatoes, yams, turkeys, hams, stuffing, cranberries and other holiday staples but our supply is far outpaced by demand. And our own mobile pantries will see a marked spike in attendance in November and December. In Monroe County, we also continue our long-standing tradition of providing groceries for 200 guests at Community Kitchen's Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

We like to keep the pressure on us to take the pressure off our agencies and the most vulnerable in our communities. We're already working hard to schedule lots of food drives and gather as much food as we can. Your donations of food and funds allow us to collect, sort, store, deliver and distribute even more food than during the rest of the year.



Volunteer Opportunities

The holiday season is officially upon us! This is the busy season for the food bank and, as always, we are in search of volunteers to help us with a few of our programs.

Meal Share Repack: HHFB is looking for volunteers available from 5:30-7:00pm on Wednesday and/or Friday evenings in December and January! During this time, volunteers can expect to help repackage prepared food entrees from commercial kitchens by sealing them in freezer-safe bags. We have a few hundred pounds that will need to be bagged every repack night. We are especially in need of volunteers for Wednesday evenings.

Book Sorting for the Community Book Fair: Now that the book fair has come and gone another year, we're back to sorting for next year's sale. We are looking for volunteers to help with sorting book donations that can give a little bit of time once per week to help us get through the mountain of donations that are already piling up. This program is great for anyone who has a passion for the written word and a love of stories.



If interested in either of these opportunities, please call or email Ryan Jochim at 812-334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org

A message from HHFB –

Everyone knows that demand increases during the holidays. Our retail partners will step up to their part, and HHFB will bring in fresh fruits and vegetables to provide fresh produce for the holiday season. Our agency partners will offer holiday distributions, increase the frequency of their distributions, and raise the amount of food they offer to patrons. All of this will help us feed those in need this holiday season....

But it's not enough.

We need offices, retailers, local organizations, clubs, church groups, trades groups, unions, manufacturers, restaurants, and more to step up to meet the need! We have set an ambitious goal to bring in 40,000 pounds of food drive donations between now and the end of year! This is only possible with your help.

To register a food drive or learn more about what you or your group could do, reach out to Brandon, Manager of Food Sourcing and Food Policy at nutrition@hhfoodbank.org or (812) 334-8374.

Upcoming Cause Marketing & Food Drives:

Food for Fines at the Monroe County Public Library – November 4th – 18th



Do you have a pesky fine that's stopping you from returning your favorite book? For only two weeks, MCPL will waive your fine with a donation of non-perishable and canned goods. It's a fantastic way to clear the slate in time for Holiday break reading or early new year resolutions and get back on your book worm grind!

STOMP! At the IU Auditorium – November 14th

Help the STOMP cast and the IU Auditorium STOMP OUT HUNGER by donating a canned good when purchasing tickets at the box office. Show your donation to box office staff and get \$5 off on tickets purchased the same day!

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
AUDITORIUM



Lucky's Day of Impact – December 3rd

Lucky's Market

Help support HHFB by shopping at Lucky's Market on December 3rd. 10% of all sales will be donated to HHFB to help purchase holiday produce!

Lucky's Community Partners Day – December 7th

Join HHFB and other local nonprofits at Lucky's Market for their annual Community Partners Day. Donate, learn more about the local social services community, and sign up to volunteer!

WCLS, Spirit 95, and K101 Live Radio Food Drive - December 6th

Listen live and join in on the competitions and festivities for a good cause!



A big thank you to these local groups & businesses who have already registered their food drive with HHFB!

Binford Elementary – Penny Harvest, Theraplay LLC, The Brothers of Phi Delta Theta, Mutual Bank, Kelly School of Business Master of Science in Information Systems Association, IU Health, Indiana National Guard, and Summers Plumbing and Heating.

Hoosier Hills Book Fair: Food for Thought

Books, music and the fight against hunger took center stage at the Monroe County Fairgrounds on October 3-8 when HHFB hosted the annual community book fair for the fifth time. IU Air Force ROTC cadets opened the fair with a color guard ceremony on Veterans Appreciation Day. A whole host of programs, including kids activities, spinal screenings, veterans consultations and food trucks, took place while almost 3,200 guests chose from over 100,000 books, dvds, cds, stamps, coins, comics and records.



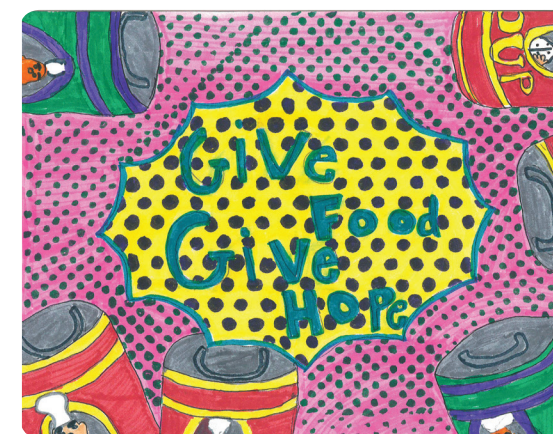
Special thanks go out to the 122 volunteers who put in over 1,500 hours of their time to make the book fair a success. As HHFB's second largest fundraiser, the event brings in important funds to support and raise awareness of our work.

"Play Ball!" Agencies Convene for Conference

115 representatives from 75 of HHFB's partner agencies came together at HHFB on September 13th for the biennial Member Agency Conference. Lead by Agency Relations Coordinator Erin Hollinden, HHFB staff presented on a variety of topics including TEFAP updates, advocacy, food sourcing and food safety.



Partners from the Monroe County Health Department and Indiana State Department of Health also provided information on food pantry inspections and civil rights training. A panel discussion also featured several local pantry leaders.



If you would like to receive a 2020 Children's Art Calendar, please email Jake at office@hhfoodbank.org

All artwork collected from local school systems and programs!

New Faces at HHFB!

Miranda Lockwood - *IN Leadership Program (Program)*

Becky Oates - *IN Leadership Program (Development)*

Tyler Wenande - *SPEA Fellow (Development)*

Sydney Graham - *SPEA Fellow (Program)*

Erin Doherty - *McDonald's Scholar*

Alex Kritzer - *HHFB Intern*

Wolf Davis - *Cox Scholar*



Miranda



Becky



Alex



Erin



Tyler



Sydney



Wolf



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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

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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