



# Hungry for Change

November 2018



News from the Hoosier Hills Food Bank

2333 W Industrial Park Dr / P.O. Box 697 / Bloomington, IN 47402 / 812-334-8374 / [www.hhfoodbank.org](http://www.hhfoodbank.org)

## November Will Add to a Big Year-We Think That's Good

As we approach one of the busiest times of our year, Hoosier Hills Food Bank is already headed toward a potential record year. Through October, we've distributed 4,072,970 pounds of food, up 17% over 2017. For the third year in a row that has included "more than a million" pounds of fresh produce – 1,077,251 to be exact, which is up 12%.

It's important to keep in mind that we've never met 100% of the need. We don't claim that. Our distribution is a reflection of the capacity we've had, not necessarily the level of demand. And we recognize that because there are so many root causes of poverty and food insecurity, it's a safe bet that there will always be a level of need for our services. There will always be food to be rescued and there will always be people who need it for one reason or another. We applaud those of many points of view who are working on addressing these root issues in government, non-profit organizations, the private sector and communities across our service area and we encourage efforts to reduce the need for people to rely on supplemental food assistance.

But we think it's important to stay focused on our core mission of ensuring that no food is wasted and on supplying as much food as possible to people who need it – and on doing those things safely, effectively and compassionately. This is especially true at this time of year and during a period in time when rancor and discord seem to dominate the headlines and limit our ability to have civil discussions about the issues.

The holidays are both a time of concern and of hope. Of care and of gratitude. Of celebrating traditions, joys and successes and remembering others who may not have as much to celebrate.

You can approach what we do with sadness and anger that it is necessary or with happiness and comfort that it happens because so many people care. It's okay to feel a little of both. What's important is to try and do something in your own way to help. We hope you can support HHFB with a financial or food donation or some volunteer time. But you could also help one of our partner agencies, engage in advocacy or simply resolve to show kindness whenever possible.

We and our partner agencies are gearing up to bring holiday happiness and cheer to as many people as we can through nutritious food. It's a simple concept with resounding results and it requires lots of help. But, if over the next 6 or 8 weeks we can tone down the conversation and uplift some spirits it will be a blessing that we'll gladly accept. We're thankful for you. We're thankful for the ability and opportunity to share food. We appreciate your support and we wish you a Happy Thanksgiving.

**In this Issue: Book Fair Recap, Food Drives, TEFAP news, Thank you Donors, Planned Giving, Message from United Way, Cause Marketing**

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



# Book Fair a Huge Success

This past October HHFB hosted the 35th annual Community Book Fair. The Book Fair is one of HHFB's largest fundraising events. Proceeds from the Book Fair are an important component in our mission to end hunger in south-central Indiana. 2018 was one of our best years yet!

The six-day event attracted over 3,000 visitors and helped raise important funds to help sustain the food bank through the start of the holiday season. The Book Fair raised over \$42,000 from book sales, donations, and sponsorships.

The Book Fair would not be what it is without the support of the community. Over 130 volunteers dedicated more than 1500 hours during the book fair, helping set up, running the cash register, and making sure everyone who attended had a great experience. Although our total volunteer numbers were down a bit from last year, we attribute this year's success to the hard work and efficiency that our volunteers brought to the book fair. Dozens of book sorters spent countless hours over the past year getting books organized for the fair.

And of course, a great big thank you to everyone who came out to the fair to support HHFB!





THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Benefactor: American Legion Post 18, City of Bloomington, Woodforest National Bank

Patron: CWA Local 4730, Duke Energy, Kritzer Insurance, Monday Morning Book Sorters, Old National Bank, Oliver Winery, Osmon Chiropractic, Silly Safaris, VFW Post 604

Donor: Bill C. Brown Associates, Curry Auto Center



SPECIAL THANKS

Great White Smoke, City of Bloomington Animal Shelter, Keith Fechtman, Mary Elfman, Monroe County Veterans Service, IU ROTC Color Guard, Bloomington and Monroe County Firefighters, Perry Clear Creek Fire District, Qdoba, Dats, Pizza Express, Chipotle, Jimmy Johns, Aver's





Our IU interns helping out at Hoosier Hysteria

# Thanks Hoosier Fans!

Our annual Hoosier Hysteria food drive was a slam dunk! Thanks to IU Basketball and the thousands of Hoosier fans who donated. We collected over 6,700 pounds of canned and non-perishable foods. Your donations went a long way in helping fight hunger. Keep a look out for more food drives happening in the community.

Or..

## Host your own food drive!

Community food drives are a big part of how we are able to serve our clients. Please consider organizing your own food drive through your organization. Contact our Food Sourcing Coordinator Brandon Bartley to set up your food drive: [nutrition@hhfoodbank.org](mailto:nutrition@hhfoodbank.org)



**On-Going Donation barrels**  
Hosted at Monroe County YMCA

**Kroger Share your Feast**  
Nov. 5th-Dec. 24th



## Thank you Bloomingfoods!

THANK YOU to Bloomingfoods shoppers for helping raise \$9108.28 for Hoosier Hills Food Bank during Bloomingfoods' September Positive Change campaign! That's huge! Your contributions will help provide much needed food to the most vulnerable members of our community.



## 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.



A member of



# “Trade Mitigation” Commodities Provide More Food

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is one of the most important sources of food for Indiana food banks (and nationally). The program includes both “entitlement” and “bonus” commodities, used to support food product markets and now called “trade mitigation” commodities. Recently, the federal government announced a significant increase in trade mitigation commodities and HHFB expects to see an additional 189,000 pounds this year and over 205,000 pounds next year.

While we take no positions on the trade and tariff related issues that have led to this development, we are grateful for the increased commodities and very pleased to be able to provide our partners and clients with significantly more nutritious food. Much of this food is frozen or perishable, however and will require increased effort to distribute in a timely manner. Unfortunately, Congress has not approved additional TEFAP administrative funds for food banks to deal with the increased food loads. Feeding America is working to remind members of Congress that food banks incur storage, transportation and staff costs associated with the additional food and are hopeful that we may see some additional funds appropriated.

In the interim, as the saying goes it is a “good problem” to have. We’ve started moving more food to our agencies including fresh fluid milk, cheese and frozen blueberries and strawberries.

HHFB is an equal opportunity employer and provider. Approximately 14% of our funding comes from federal government sources, 4% from state and local government sources and 82% from non-governmental sources. Federal discrimination complaints can be directed to 201-720-5964. For full non-discrimination policies visit [www.hhfoodbank.org](http://www.hhfoodbank.org).

## Bags for Change

**Lucky's  
Market**

2424 S Walnut St, Bloomington,  
IN 47401

We are happy to announce that Lucky’s Market will be partnering with HHFB again this holiday season. Lucky’s is hosting their Bags for Change campaign from

November 1<sup>st</sup> through February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bring your reusable bags when you shop at Luckys and receive a Luckys’s wooden dime. Drop your wooden dime in HHFB’s donation box to donate \$0.10 to help fight hunger. At the end of the campaign, Lucky’s Market will double all of your contributions and make a donation directly to HHFB.

## Generously Wrapped Campaign

**SUBWAY**

HHFB has been invited to participate in Subway’s Generously Wrapped campaign this holiday season. From November 2<sup>nd</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, Subway restaurants in our area will donate \$0.10 from every Signature Wrap sold directly to Hoosier Hills. When you visit your local Subway (there are over 17 in our area!) order a fresh, nutritious, and delicious Subway Signature Wrap and help feed your community!

## United We Fight. United We Win.

United Way and its member agencies fight for the education, earnings opportunity, and essentials needs of everyone in our community. Will you join the fight?



**Member Agency**

Every day United Way, Hoosier Hills Food Bank, and 24 other highly-qualified partner agencies fight for our neighbors so everyone has a true chance at a better life. By having access to the right assistance, people can better face their difficult, and usually complex, realities. United Way supports a range of services like healthy meals, after-school programs, job supports, senior services, safe housing, and health care that can help people create wins, whether large or small. When our community works together, everyone is stronger. Donors like you are turning lives around every day.

Change doesn't happen alone-we must all fight together to win.

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Please give generously today. To see how your donation is fighting for your community throughout the year, visit [www.monroeunitedway.org/MyImpact](http://www.monroeunitedway.org/MyImpact).



## Giving Bag Program

During the month of November, every Giving Bag sold at Fresh Thyme Farmer's Markets located at:

3600 W. 3rd St., Bloomington IN  
2894 E 3rd Street, Bloomington IN

will generate a \$1 donation to support Hoosier Hills Food Bank, unless otherwise directed by the Giving Tag attached to the bag.

# Children's Art Calendar Coming Soon!

It's that time of year again! Hoosier Hills is proud to announce the release of the 2019 Children's Art Calendar. The calendar is one way we like to thank our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and the community for everything they do to support HHFB. Kids across the community were asked to create a piece of art that expresses what HHFB's mission to end hunger means to them. The kids let their imaginations and creativity run free and came up with some of the most amazing works of art we've seen yet! We wish we could put them all in the calendar, but unfortunately there's only twelve months in a year. Thanks to all the awesome artists who submitted their work!

To get your copy of the 2019 Children's Art Calendar email: [Office@hhfoodbank.org](mailto:Office@hhfoodbank.org)  
You can also request a calendar sent by mail



## Member Agency Reporting

This fall, HHFB made it easier for member agencies to submit mandatory monthly and quarterly statistics about the numbers of clients they serve. For years, agencies have reported to HHFB by filling in an excel spreadsheet which they attached to email, or stamped and snail-mailed, or dropped off in person, or sent by carrier pigeon. Our new website now offers the option to submit service statistics using a simple online form.

Comments on the new method included:

- From an elderly food pantry operator who previously printed the spreadsheet, wrote on it, copied it, and hand-delivered it: "It was very easy. Thanks."
- From a minister who single-handedly runs both a youth program and a food pantry: "It was so easy to input my stats! I really appreciate this online option."
- From a manager of free public lunches who has been in her position only six months: "I really liked submitting the stats online. I feel like it was much easier."
- From a food pantry director who previously printed the form, wrote on it, took a picture of it, and texted it: "It was super easy!!"

So thank you again to Caroline Braun, who volunteered to upgrade HHFB's website, including this important improvement!



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[www.hhfoodbank.org](http://www.hhfoodbank.org)

**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>



**Board of Directors:**

Chuck Cooksey, Maurice Garnier, Chris Gray, Nancy Kaster, George Huntington, Jessica McClellan, Trina Mescher, Robin Mendyka, Adrian Reid, Margie Rice, Kevin Robling, Tom Ruemler, Scott Shackelford, Shelia Sines, Pam Van Zant

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