



Hoosier Hills Food Bank
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www.hhfoodbank.org

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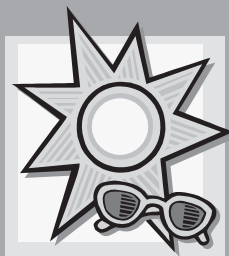
Our Mission:

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

THANK YOU to the following supporters:

- ☉ Sweet Claire's
- ☉ Cook Group
- ☉ Highland Park Elementary
- ☉ Psi Iota Xi
- ☉ Indiana Pork Producers



GIVE ONLINE AT www.hhfoodbank.org

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If you receive two copies please pass one on to a friend or notify the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. If you would like to be removed from our list your request will be promptly honored.



Hungry For Change

July 2011



News from the Hoosier Hills Food Bank

2333 W Industrial Park Dr * P.O. Box 697 * Bloomington, Indiana 47402 * 812-334-8374 * www.hhfoodbank.org

Hunger Has No Time for a Lockout

It's half-time! But the team at Hoosier Hills Food Bank doesn't have time to rest in the locker room. 2011 is proving to be another big and busy year, with 1,621,119 pounds of food distributed through June 30th. It's a modest (3,851 pounds) increase over the same period in 2010, but the fact remains that after four record years any increase at all is pretty amazing. And frankly, the number would be even higher with more food on hand to distribute.

Summer is always a challenge – the need for food increases with kids missing out on school meal programs and donations tend to drop off. This year is no exception. Your food bank has been active on many fronts to increase available food and our capacity to move it:

So far we've distributed 26% more purchased food than last year (105,000 lbs.) – and we have 15% less on hand than we did last June.

We've distributed 16% more community food drive (85,000 lbs.) and our supply is down 49% from last June! On July 1 we purchased another 24,000 pounds of food – green beans and ravioli to supplement our dwindling supplies. We needed more, but the \$9,500 cost is already a stretch for the summer budget.

A Jack Hopkins social services grant is helping us increase driver and warehouse staff hours to facilitate more pick-ups and deliveries and to better maintain our facility and comply with increasing regulation. Feeding America's food safety manual, which we are obligated to comply with, recently went from 90 to 236 pages overnight. Our drivers have also been working hard to obtain CDL's so we can maximize the use of our new truck.

Our agency relations program is in full swing, thanks to support from the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County – we're already gathering valuable information about how to better serve our partner agencies and planning a conference to meet our contractual monitoring and training responsibilities.

The garden is growing! Lots of rain and volunteer support have us hopeful for a bountiful harvest of fresh produce this year.

We're seeking grants to expand our deliveries to outlying counties and save our partner agencies at least some of their fuel costs, even as our own fuel costs have skyrocketed.

The economic picture hasn't brightened enough to decrease the need for food assistance. We've seen cuts and delays to federal funding streams and more loom large. We're working many angles to keep the food flowing, but we really need your continued help.

Don't let HHFB be the latest lock out victim! Please donate today and keep our team working to feed those in need!



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Save the Date: BBQ Benefit

Monday August 8th, Sweet Grass Restaurant will host a benefit dinner for Hoosier Hills Food Bank. Tickets will go on sale July 17th please call to reserve yours as soon as possible as the tickets will be limited. Each ticket will be \$45 dollars and your ticket will include three entrees and a dessert with a special beer pairing with each item.

Some of the menu items will include 12 month prosciutto, house made mozzarella, chorizo kabobs, all meats will be smoked with choice wood chips and specialty beers will be paired with each entrée including dessert. Blue grass music will be played as you enjoy the evening. Call (812) 334-8374 for more information. Tickets will be available at the Hoosier Hills Food Bank as well as Sweet Grass Restaurant.



Hoosier Hills Food Bank would like to thank Comcast for another successful year in the partnership of Comcast Cares day 2011. Comcast has partnered with HHFB for two years now in this day of service helping with costs of certain materials and has been a big help with food bank projects. 2011 was no exception, Comcast had over 100 staff members working on different projects ranging from folding and stapling bags for our letter carrier food drive. They also helped package CSFP boxes for seniors, and repackaged bulk cereal by portion size for needy families. In addition to volunteer hours Comcast helped HHFB purchase post cards that went out to advertise the NALC food drive and helped with the cost of a commercial that talks about HHFB, NALC food drive and how to get involved with the food bank. Comcast has been an outstanding community partner and we look forward to future endeavors together.



Comcast Cares



Attention All HHFB Agencies:

We need your input if you have received a survey in the mail please fill out as soon as possible and return to Erin our member agency relations coordinator. If you did not receive one or have additional questions please email memberagency@hhfoodbank.org. Also please be advised to save the date for our Agency Relations conference which will be held at HHFB August 17th!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: UIFI

Thanks to the UIFI's for volunteering regularly at HHFB. So far this summer this IU group has helped pack hundreds of boxes of CSFP for seniors, repacked bulk cereal, gardening and sorted countless pounds of food drive to help get canned goods onto the floor quickly!

Letter Carrier's Food Drive

Following up on another year of the NALC food drive proves to be another huge collection of food. Each year on a certain Saturday in May citizens of Bloomington are encouraged to set a bag of food on or around their mail box for their local letter carrier to pick up. This food drive is typically the biggest for the Hoosier Hills Food Bank and, 2011 was no exception. With the help of a Comcast commercial and some extra post cards sent out in the mail the letter carriers

food drive was able to collect **39,439 lbs.** of food which was an increase of the previous years. The food collected during this huge event is imperative to helping carry HHFB through the slower summer months and enables us to have a vast assortment of non-perishable food on hand. HHFB would like to thank all letter carrier's who took extra time out of their day to make this happen and, also thank all donors in the community who participated.



NAP Credits Sold Out!

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority granted HHFB \$15,000 in Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits this year and we sold out in eight days. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Federal Support for Hunger Relief At Risk

While the majority of HHFB's support comes from private sector contributors, like most food banks we also rely on the support of the federal government to combat hunger, especially in such difficult times and with an extraordinary level of need.

We've already been impacted by the federal budget battles, as Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) funding, which normally would have been received well before now, has been delayed by the long budget process. Our local EFSP board has not yet been informed when funds will be available or how much Monroe County will receive, so we continue to wait. We do know that our Community Development Block Grant funding will be about 20% less than last year and about 49% less than 2009.

Most critical to our efforts, however, are the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) which last year provided over 40% of the total food we distributed. These programs, along with nutrition programs like food stamps (SNAP) and WIC (Women, Infants & Children) all face some risk of budget reductions.

For more information on these federal nutrition programs and how you can take action to make your views known about them, visit Feeding America's Hunger Action Center: www.hungeractioncenter.org.



Highland Park Elementary Food Drive



Pictures from the Herald Times

Several months ago Taylor Shahadey, a Highland Park Elementary 6th grader had a great idea, she decided to hold a food drive to benefit the local food bank. "It made me feel sad for people who don't have as much as I have, who can't just go out to eat or cook a nice meal," she said. "And I thought it would be cool if Highland Park could have a food drive." (Herald Times)

With help from teachers and staff from Highland Park, Taylor was able to hold and organize a very successful food drive. At the end of the week the school held a carnival and people were also encouraged to donate canned goods, the cans were then counted and Taylor and staff discovered they had collected 935 cans of good nutritious food. Teachers, staff as well as the food bank have been very impressed and inspired by Taylor's effort in thinking about ways to help the community.

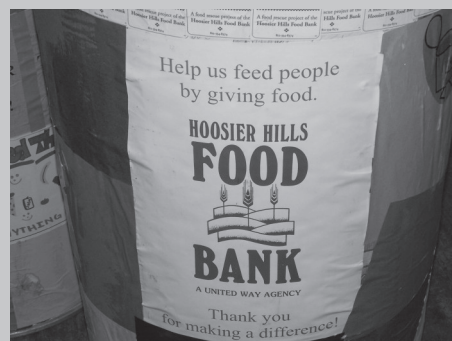


Ever wanted to have your own food drive?

Have you ever wanted to have your own food drive to benefit the food bank? If so the information that follows is just for you! Many people, businesses, student groups etc have food drives each year and HHFB depends on these local groups to raise nutritious non-perishable food for us to distribute. So if your a business, a family, or a organization that would like to get involved its as easy as

1. Plan your food drive for a certain length of time.
2. Call the food bank and, we will bring you out a barrel (or two)
3. Let us know when you have completed your food drive. We will pick up the barrel, weigh the food and send out a thank you letter in the mail, with tax information if you decide to deduct.

Just call (812) 334- 8374



Items in current demand for HHFB
Peanut butter, ravioli, tuna, and canned beans

Jack Hopkins Grant

Hoosier Hills Food Bank has been awarded a Jack Hopkins Social Service Grant of \$10,750 by the City of Bloomington. The grant will enable the purchase of a walkie pallet jack and cover increased staff driver hours for the balance of 2011. Our warehouse manager, who currently spends about a quarter of his time doing food pick-ups, will be able to devote all of his time to facility and inventory management; and our food rescue driver will go from part- to full-time allowing him to cover those additional driver duties.

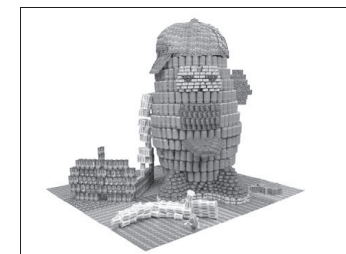
Many people don't realize that even as a non-profit organization, HHFB is subject to most of the laws and regulations that govern the private sector in similar industries. In addition to feeling the effects that come with doubling our food output in the past five years, we are obligated to meet standards imposed by regulatory authorities. Feeding America has recently revised its food safety and handling manual, which governs how we operate. The manual was increased from 90 to 236 pages and we are still assessing and absorbing the impact. A greater focus on accountability and facility management requires additional staff hours devoted to those efforts.

Taking our warehouse manager off the road while still maintaining a high level of service to our food donors and seeking additional food donation sources will improve our capacity and effectiveness. We appreciate the support of the City of Bloomington in helping us move forward by funding the initial staffing and equipment costs.



Special Thanks to the following

- MMU Tudor Room
- Psi Iota Xi
- Marky's Audio Visual
- Indiana Pork Producers
- Perry Township Trustee



In October 2011 Hoosier Hills Food Bank is attempting to organize Canstruction. This event is nationally known and requires teams to construct entire structures out of cans based on themes.

HHFB hopes to recruit local builders, architects and engineers to partner with student organizations to make this event a success. Given the date and time of year the theme will be based around Halloween. If you are interested in volunteering, sponsoring a structure or would like more information on how to get involved please call Jake @ (812) 334-8374.

ULYSSES



Thanks to a grant from the USDA, the Hoosier Hills Food Bank is proud to announce the arrival of our newest truck, Ulysses! Last year around this time the food bank was making due with a depleted fleet of refrigerated trucks that were constantly in and out of the shop. Pulling these trucks off the road and being battered by the constant cost of the work being done proved problematic in many ways.

Thankfully now we have received two new trucks through grants and the timing couldn't have been more spot on. This new truck can hold 12 pallets and is 26 feet long, has a lift gate. This truck also requires staff to attain a CDL B. The new truck will allow HHFB to collect and distribute more food without the cost of regular repair.

This year Hoosier Hills Food Bank decided to join in the festivities of the 4th of July parade around downtown Bloomington. We had a good volunteer turn out and additional staff was on hand to pick up food from families attending the parade. HHFB collected nearly two hundred pounds of food during the walk around the city and, was warmly received by the crowd. We also passed out stadium cups while making new friends and community supporters. During the summer months the food bank's food supply runs a little thin and any additional support, food drives, donations etc. can be very helpful in carrying us through until donations pick up again. This tradition is anticipated to carry on in the future so that parade attendees will know to bring a non perishable to the parade for the local food bank.



4th of July Parade

Hunger Recognition Awards Ceremony



The 2011 Hunger Recognition Awards was another great example of how HHFB depends on great volunteers and supporters to help in our day to day tasks. In all HHFB honored 6 individuals or groups that helped us in some way. These honorees help make a difference each and everyday and HHFB is very thankful for their continued support and effort!

- . Bedford Community Care Center
- . French Lick CSFP volunteers
- . Mary Haviland
- . Wal-Mart
- . MCCSC
- . IU Orientation



For the third consecutive year Feeding America has partnered with NBC's "The Biggest Loser" to initiate the pound for pound challenge. This program encourages individuals to either create a team or to individually shed pounds by pledging their weight loss goals to www.pfpchallenge.com.

For every pound pledged the challenge will donate 11 cents to Feeding America to benefit local food banks across the nation, including Hoosier Hills Food Bank. After all of the hard work the 177 teams in Bloomington put in the results are in! Overall 4,535 lbs were shed by these teams, which is outstanding for the health in our state and for benefiting HHFB.

Cook Inc. in Spencer in particular lost nearly 1,000 lbs between a group of around 40 people. Great Job to each and every team and member and we hope the continued success follows in years to come.

