



Hoosier Hills Food Bank
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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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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BLOOMINGTON, IN
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THANK YOU to the following supporters:

- ◆ Soup Bowl donors (soups, bowls, bread and cookies)
- ◆ Nash Finch
- ◆ Sahara Mart
- ◆ Bloomington Hospital/IU Health



Please join us for:

Hoosier Hills Food Bank Annual Meeting

Friday March 25th, 2011

Lunch 11:30am (Provided by IMU Tudor Room)

Business Meeting 12-1pm

At HHFB 2333 W Industrial Park Dr., Bloomington

Please RSVP to Jake at (812) 334 8374 or office@hhfoodbank.org

GIVE ONLINE AT www.hhfoodbank.org

In This Issue

- Feinstein Challenge
- Soup Bowl 2011
- Live from Bloomington
- NALC
- "March Against Hunger"
- Nash Finch
- MLK Day
- Bloomington Hospital Food Drive
- Food Bank changes

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

March 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

A fourth record year

As we will report for the fourth time in a row at our Annual Meeting on March 25, Hoosier Hills Food Bank distributed a record amount of food in 2010. To be exact: 3,239,967 pounds...nearly 75,000 pounds or 2.4% more than the prior year.

That more food was needed surprises no one. We've all seen the news. The number of individuals receiving SNAP benefits (food stamps) increased by over 10 million from December 2008 to August 2010. Over 42 million Americans rely on this program to put food on the table. Over 50 million Americans, including more than 17 million children reside in food insecure households.

But from a supply standpoint, any increase at all last year becomes an even more remarkable milestone once you consider that our 2009 poundage was a 29% increase, of over 700,000 pounds more than 2008.

Many food donation sources (community food drives, Meal Share, local regular donors, national network donors) were down significantly last year. There's no getting around the fact that what saw us through 2010 were over 1.3 million pounds of commodities provided by the US Department of Agriculture.

As we start 2011, your generosity is sustaining us. Holiday giving allowed us to end our year in a healthy financial position and have the confidence to purchase over 77,000 pounds of food to start this year. Canned vegetables, soup, pork & beans, pasta and cereal are all available to our partner agencies right now because of financial support we received toward the end of last year.

We expect that this year will bring just as many challenges to our capacity, but with your support, we remain dedicated to taking the hunger out of poverty.



Member Agency

Board of Directors

Chuck Cooksey Kent Clark Maurice Garnier Nita Horrar Nancy Kaster George Huntington Trina Mescher
Cindy Molthan Jeremy O'Leary Adrian Reid Margie Rice Kevin Robling Tom Ruemler Charlie Thompson

Staff

Zack Allen Julio Alonso Alex Barrett Dan Baucco Jake Bruner Amanda Elliott Erin Hollinden
Bethany Lister Molly McPherson Ben Mescher
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Feeding Indiana's Hungry



Volunteer Events



Comcast Cares
Saturday April 30th



LIVE UNITED
United Way
United Way of Monroe County
Wednesday April 6th
United Day of Action

The Hoosier Hills Food Bank is excited to announce its participation in the 3rd annual "March Against Hunger". Attorney General Greg Zoeller has again joined forces with the Indiana Bar Association and FISH (Feeding Indiana's Hungry) for this state wide food drive. March Against Hunger is a friendly competition between local and statewide law firms to raise funds and foods for their local food banks. Hoosier Hills Food Bank was the site of this year's "March Against Hunger" kick off, Attorney General Zoeller was there to stress the importance in participation for this event and to reiterate the need of every food bank in the state based on the ever increasing demand "The food banks in Indiana are facing a critical shortage of supplies due to the increase in the need to help put food on the table of our fellow Hoosiers. I've been very proud of the past support by the many members of the Indiana State Bar Association and I hope for greater support this year to meet the greater need." (AG Greg Zoeller) **pictured (AG Zoeller, Julio Alonso, Margie Rice)**



HOMeward BOUND

Uniting to Provide Housing and Fight Homelessness in Indiana



Sunday, April 10, 2011
Third Street Park

Homewardboundindiana.org/bloomington

12:00 PM Registration & Pre Walk Entertainment Begins

1:00 PM WALK STARTS

2:00 PM Return to the park for music, food, fun, and team recognition

Please pledge to team IU Friends of HHFB



union board



This year's Live From Bloomington event was a night to remember. For the first time in the project's 25 years, the local musicians that were selected for the project formed a collective group named the Brio Pop Society. Then they wrote and performed their all original concept album, "The Brio Pop Society's Songs of Indiana." The multi-banded performance was followed by Bloomington's own, nationally known band, Murder By Death. But the extra special part of the performance involved an original song and performance by the person who originated the entire project, John Plenge. Astounded by the staying power of the project he started, he challenged the audience by saying to never underestimate what your efforts can accomplish regardless of the scope. You never know how the right idea might take hold and then continue to grow. Hoosier Hills Food Bank is full of stories just like that were a seemingly small effort has grown to make a huge difference in our efforts. Few stories are better than the success of Live From Bloomington, with the total amount of food raised to help us feed people reaching over 278,000 pounds of food.



Special thanks to Speedway for donating nearly 400 pounds of frozen chicken. This donation came at time during the holidays when food is always in great demand. Receiving this frozen donation we were able to help the community get a good source of protein which is essential item we like to provide. Thanks to everyone at Speedway for taking a stance against hunger!



FEEDING AMERICA
Volunteer. Donate. Advocate.
WOODFOREST NATIONAL BANK



Share Your Feast



NASH FINCH COMPANY

Thank you local food and financial donors!



Soup Bowl Benefit



RESTAURANTS

- Anatolia Anyetsang's Little Tibet Basil Leaf Bear's Place
- Bella Cucina Bloomingfoods Market & Deli East and West
- Bryan Park Preschool for Global Children Café D'Jango
- Crazy Horse Dats Falafel's Taste of Jerusalem Feast
- Food Work for Middleway House Grazie Italian Eatery
- Janko's Little Zagreb KRC Banquets & Catering Le Petit Café
- Lennie's Malibu Grill Mandalay Restaurant
- Michael's Uptown Café Nick's English Hut Player's Pub
- Rachael's Café Restaurant Tallent Roots on the Square
- Sahara Mart Samira Scholar's Inn Bakehouse Shanti
- Siam House Sodexo Catering IMU Soup's On
- Sweetgrass Restaurant Taste of India
- Terry's Banquets & Catering The Green Bean The Hoosier Room
- The Laughing Planet The Limestone Grille The Owlery
- The Scholars Inn The Trojan Horse The Village Deli
- Truffles Restaurant Turkuaz Upland Brewing Company

BREAD AND COOKIES

- Aver's Pizza Baked! Bloomington Bagel Co.
- Kroger Panera Bread Sugar and Spice
- Sweet Claire Gourmet Bakery

DRINKING WATER

- Crystal Pure

BEER & WINE

- Upland Brewing Co. Oliver Winery

CORPORATE SPONSORS

- Residents of Olympus Properties * Bloomington
- Iron and Metal * Dermatology Center of Southern Indiana * Southern Indiana Pathologists * First Financial Bank * United Commerce Bank * Duke Energy * Dr. Howard and Associates * Orthopedics of Southern Indiana * Ivy Tech Community College * DG & Gini Elmore * Southern Indiana Radiological Associates.



Photo provided by The Herald Times

Soup Bowl 2011 was a great success this year! For 17 consecutive years potters, restaurants and volunteers came together to ensure that another Soup Bowl was a great event for the community and for the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. This year the Soup Bowl Benefit generated over \$83,000 which comes at a great time of need. This event could not be possible without all the generous individual donations and corporate sponsorships. This annual event is a major source of support to the Hoosier Hills Food Bank every year, it is dear to the hearts of all food bankers. The money raised helps the food bank fulfill it's mission to provide food for those in need in our local community.

THANKS!



PATRONS

- Jeannine Bell Bloomfield State Bank Bunger & Robertson
- Clendening, Johnson & Bohrer, PC Dan & Debi Conkle
- Deer Park Management Dr. Lawler - Center for Sound Sleep
- Robert Meitus & Carrie Newcomer Southern Indiana Pediatrics
- Janet & Jeff Stake Stumpner's Building Services
- Tim & Young Ae Tresslar Women's Alliance of the UU Church

DONORS

- Amy & John Applegate
- Eye Center of Southern Indiana
- First Insurance Group Beth Florini & Chris Gaal
- Rob Fischman Faith Hawkins & Glenda Shulz
- Michael Hamburger & Jennifer Bass
- Marcia Veldman & Steve Cotter

BENEFACTORS

- Carmichael Truck & Automotive Service
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- Indiana University Health Center Staff
- Mallor Grodner Attorneys Monet & Rey
- Premiere Healthcare TASUS Corp.
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- World Wide Automotive Service

POTTERS

- Pryde Bayliss Viola Beeker Esther Briggs Terry Briner
- Jamas Brooke Kris Busch Shu-Mei Chan Ruth Conway
- Eileen Crain Adam Egenolf Daniel Evans Lauren Ferguson
- Karen Green Stone Libby Gwynn Jim Halvorson Jim Kemp
- Rebecca Lowrey Barb Lund Kiyomi Macy Ed McEnderfer
- Hannelore Meier Marcy Neiditz Milton Nolin Susy O'Donnell
- Paula Patton Larry Pejeau Tom Pritchard Judy Pritchard
- Nancy Rayfield Daria Smith Walt Schmidt Larry Spears
- Susan Snyder Mindy Weddle Amanda Weigl Katie Wolfe
- Bloomington Clay Studio Chipmunk Hill Studio Students
- Girl Scout Troop #273 Indiana University Ceramics Guild



The Hoosier Hills Food Bank would like to thank the union of construction electricians or IBEW #725. Over 670 union members voluntarily had money deducted from their paychecks to give back to the community. Since January 2010 they had raised over \$27,000 dollars, in partnership with its employer contractors, The National Electrical Contractors Association, IBEW 725 also jointly made year end contributions totaling 15,000 for seven local agencies, including HHFB. Hoosier Hills Food bank feels very fortunate to have benefited from this gracious fundraiser.



The Hoosier Hills Food Bank is looking forward to again partnering with the Bloomington Hospital/IU Health for their annual campus wide food drive. This food drive last year generated over 7,000 lbs of food and they are geared up to beat their record. This food drive has partly been such a success because of the friendly competition between all the different sects of the hospital. Each year new divisions sign up to join and every one does a great job of participating and coordinating with the food bank to get weight totals and pick ups. Thanks for this great food drive!



The Feinstein Challenge 2011

For the 14th consecutive year, Alan Shawn Feinstein will divide \$1million among hunger fighting agencies nationwide, using it to help them raise funds this March and April. Only donations or pledges from March 1st to April 30th are eligible, these donations can include cash, checks and food items. Please help the Hoosier Hills Food Bank take full advantage of this opportunity We hope to make this continued program a great success once again! Please don't forget to note that your donation is part of the Feinstein Challenge.



Martin Luther King Day 2011 was another huge success for the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. A day filled with volunteers, activities and an assortment of tasks to be fulfilled. At first glance this huge array of volunteers can appear overwhelming but thanks to a great staff and our volunteer coordinator The Hoosier Hills Food Bank had no trouble getting all of the groups and individuals on task and helping out in no time. Thanks to the community and all the groups that come to help out we look forward to seeing you all in the future. If you are interested in volunteer at the food bank please contact Kai Westerfield (812) 334-8374 or volunteer@hhfoodbank.org.

315 People
647 Hours

We can't afford to lose the war on poverty.

But we are. And those in power are threatening to take away our weapons and let the casualties lay where they fall.

Our national elected officials are taking aim at many programs and funding streams whose goal is to reduce poverty and alleviate the suffering of the substantial numbers of Americans in need during the worst economic crisis since the great depression.

I mean no disrespect to those who argue that the federal government spends too much money and that prolonged deficit spending will harm our country. In fact, I'll concede the point. But I take issue with balancing the budget on the backs of those least able to afford it...and with the short-sighted plan to cut investments in people that pay dividends and save money down the road.

Two new reports highlight the position that this is not a good time to abandon funding for anti-poverty programs. The Food Research and Action Center reports that nearly one in five Americans struggled to afford enough food for themselves and their families in 2010 (www.frac.org). "The data in this report show that food hardship – running out of money to buy the food that families need – is a substantial challenge in every corner of this country," said Jim Weill, FRAC President. "While the nation's Great Recession may have technically ended in mid-2009, it has not yet ended for many of the nation's households. For them, 2010 was the third year of a terrible recession that is widely damaging the ability to meet basic needs."

Jessica Fraser, of the Indiana Institute for Working Families agrees: "Indiana has struggled for nearly a decade with stagnant wages, and growing numbers of families who are now considered low-income – that is they earn less than 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) (\$36,620 for a family of three in 2009). Meeting basic needs like food and housing is a challenge for nearly 1 in 3 Hoosiers. Though the national recession has officially ended, Indiana has a long road to economic recovery and until then many Hoosier families will continue to experience hardships.

The Institute's report "The Status of Working Families in Indiana: 2010 Update" (www.incap.org/iwifRandP.html) states that Hoosier workers continue to earn a median wage lower than the average American and that poverty is more prevalent in Indiana than in the U.S.

Many of the funding cuts proposed in Washington will directly impact HHFB – cuts to the Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Food & Shelter Programs could mean the loss of \$15,000 or more. Cuts to the Commodity Supplemental Food Program would mean reductions in caseloads for a low-income senior nutrition program that already has a waiting list. Many funding cuts will also directly impact our partner agencies. But more importantly, over the long-term, as people already struggling lose benefits like child care and heating assistance, they will turn to food pantries and kitchens, who will turn to us for more food.

Federal government support is only one part of the picture, but it provides a critical supplement to private funding streams that make up the majority of our support. Until the economic turnaround reaches down to those in need of food assistance, federal anti-poverty programs remain a life line. **Cont'd page 5**

It is certainly legitimate for candidates and elected officials to take positions that promote cutting spending. But they should also acknowledge and be held accountable for the consequences on people and families.

Those in power have tempered the pressure from vocal opponents of war and its financial costs with practical and strategic considerations for a decade. The war on poverty deserves no less consideration.

If you have thoughts on state and federal priorities when it comes to social service investments, now is the time to share them with those who represent you. More information is available at the Hunger Action Center, www.hungeractioncenter.org.

Julio Alonso, Executive Director



Hoosier Hills Food Bank Staff!

Mark your calendars!

May 14, 2011



New Staff

HHFB welcomes Molly McPherson as our new SPEA Service Corps Fellow and thanks past intern Tonya Treble for her help over the past two years.

A grant from the Community Foundation of Bloomington & Monroe County has helped HHFB to enhance our agency relations program and hire our first Agency Relations Coordinator. We are pleased to welcome Erin Hollinden.

Garden & Gleaning Program Coordinator Jessica Williams has moved on and we thank her for the great work she did in establishing our program. We're in the process of hiring a new program coordinator for the upcoming season.

HHFB staff member Jake Bruner has taken on additional duties and was promoted to Office & Development Manager at the start of the year.

