



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Eastern Illinois Foodbank Receives \$15,000 Wells Fargo Grant for Foodmobile Program**

NORMAL, Ill. –Eastern Illinois Foodbank received a \$15,000 grant from the Wells Fargo Advisors grant initiative. Funds from the grant will be used to fund three of Eastern Illinois Foodbank’s foodmobiles in McLean County, a system of mobile food pantries designed to increase access to nutritious food for residents in rural and under-served communities. Each foodmobile delivers approximately 12,000 pounds of food to 100-150 households struggling with hunger.

Funding for the program has come at a critical time for individuals and families in our area. “Of the people struggling with food insecurity in McLean County, one in four are children,” said Jim Hires, President and CEO of the Foodbank. “Our Foodmobile Program is one of the ways we can help families and individuals get the help they need. Last year, more than 600,000 pounds of food, including 172,000 pounds of fresh produce, were directly delivered to those that need it most through Foodmobiles.”

There are currently more than 20,000 people in McLean County living with food insecurity per the latest data from Feeding America’s *Map the Meal Gap* study. Support from Wells Fargo will ensure families and individuals struggling with hunger will have a place to turn for help.

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#### ***About Eastern Illinois Foodbank***

*Eastern Illinois Foodbank works to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois through cooperation with a network of food pantries, agencies and other programs. The Foodbank distributes donated and discounted food throughout an 18-county service area in cooperation with more than 170 member agencies and programs. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides meals to more than 100,000 men, women and children each year. The Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Illinois, the United Way of Coles County, and the United Way of Champaign County.*

#### ***About Wells Fargo Advisors***

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