



Eastern Illinois  
**FOODBANK**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Eastern Illinois Foodbank to Host 12-Hour Volunteer Event**

Urbana, Ill. - Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) is hosting a unique 12-hour volunteer event on September 27 from 8am to 8pm at its warehouse. The event, called "Operation Orange" will consist of six two-hour shifts during which volunteers will repackage bulk food into smaller portions to be distributed throughout EIF's 18-county service area.

The event is part of Hunger Action Month, a national hunger awareness campaign by Feeding America, the nation's network of foodbanks of which EIF is a member. Volunteers will be given orange "Hunger Avenger" t-shirts and food will be provided by area sponsors for each shift. A Kids' Zone will also be featured for volunteers between the ages of five and 13 and their families.

"We are really excited to be able to share this opportunity with our community," said Jim Hires, President & CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. "The support we receive from our volunteers is tremendous. With nearly 100,000 people in eastern Illinois living with food insecurity, it is critical that we come together as a community to help alleviate hunger."

Eastern Illinois Foodbank provides food to agencies such as food pantries, soup kitchens, snack programs and shelters who serve individuals and families struggling with hunger. The Foodbank strives to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois and distributed more than 10.5 million pounds of food last year.

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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 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. For more information on Eastern Illinois Foodbank, visit [eifoodbank.org](http://eifoodbank.org).*