



## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
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### **Eastern Illinois Foodbank Joins Feeding America's Hunger Action Month Campaign to Ensure Food Isn't an Impossible Choice for More Than 100,000 People Facing Hunger in Eastern Illinois**

*Hunger Action Month Campaign Aims to Inspire the Public to Get Involved and Raise Awareness of Hunger in America*

**URBANA, IL – September 1, 2021** – For Hunger Action Month® this September, Eastern Illinois Foodbank will join Feeding America and other network member food banks to inspire people to take action and raise awareness of people facing the impossible choice of hunger. Food banks around the country are working to make a real and lasting impact on food insecurity in their communities, and they are asking for the public's support.

September marks the 14<sup>th</sup> year Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization with a nationwide network of 200 food banks, including Eastern Illinois and 60,000 partner food pantries and meal programs, has organized the annual call to action. This year's campaign presents the impossible choices that millions of Americans must make between food and other basic needs.

"For many, a daily meal is a simple choice of what to eat," said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. "For people facing hunger, a daily meal poses a very different type of choice. It's often an impossible decision between food or other crucial needs, such as electricity, childcare, or medicine. Nobody should be forced to make a choice to go hungry. With the public's support, we can come together to help people achieve long-term food security, so they no longer have to make such tough decisions."

During the month of September, people across eastern Illinois can get involved in the movement by learning, committing, and speaking up about ways to end hunger.

- Donate – Visit [www.eifoodbank.org/action/donate/donate.html](http://www.eifoodbank.org/action/donate/donate.html) to donate to Eastern Illinois Foodbank. Each dollar donated feeds one person for a day.
- Volunteer – Visit [www.eifoodbank.org/action/volunteer](http://www.eifoodbank.org/action/volunteer) to find upcoming volunteer opportunities.
- Advocate - Wear orange on Friday, September 17 for Hunger Action Day to raise awareness of hunger. Post photos on social media and tag @eifoodbank.

Hunger Action Month is a time to mobilize to end hunger. You can choose to donate or advocate. You can choose to volunteer or raise awareness. You can choose to help end hunger. Learn more about how you can take action by visiting [eifoodbank.org](http://eifoodbank.org) or [hungeractionmonth.org](http://hungeractionmonth.org).

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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 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 food*



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*to over 100,000 different men, women and children each year. Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America Feeding Illinois and the United Way of Champaign County.*

### **About Feeding America**

*Feeding America® is the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States. Through a network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs, we provide meals to more than 40 million people each year. Feeding America also supports programs that prevent food waste and improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Visit [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org), find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).*