



## PRESS RELEASE

09/25/2019

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Molly Delaney

mdelaney@eifoodbank.org

(217) 328-3663 x 217

(217) 417-8775 mobile

### EASTERN ILLINOIS FOODBANK RECEIVES GRANT FROM CONAGRA BRANDS FOUNDATION TO HELP PEOPLE WHO FACE HUNGER IN EASTERN ILLINOIS

**URBANA, IL, (09/25/2019)** — Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) today announced a \$33,000 grant from Conagra Brands Foundation to help provide food to children and families in need. This significant grant will enable EIF to increase its cold storage capacity by 600 square feet in order to source, store and deliver additional fresh and frozen product.

“Hunger affects people from all walks of life in every county of the United States, including eastern Illinois,” said Jim Hires, President & CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. “With the Conagra Brands Foundation’s commitment, we will be able to better serve children and families who may not know where they will find their next meal.”

Funds from the grant will be used to remove a wall from the cold storage area and install racks, increasing capacity from 700 to 1300 square feet.

One in eight people in eastern Illinois<sup>1</sup> faces hunger. Conagra Brands Foundation has partnered with Feeding America®, the nation’s leading domestic hunger-relief organization, to help address this issue in local Conagra communities.

Eastern Illinois Foodbank is one of 31 Feeding America food banks that have received a capacity building grant, funded by the Conagra Brands Foundation.

To learn more about Eastern Illinois Foodbank, visit [www.eifoodbank.org](http://www.eifoodbank.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 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 58,000 men, women and children each month. The Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Illinois, and the United Way of Champaign County.*

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1 <http://map.feedingamerica.org/>

2 <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/food-insecurity.html>



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### **About Conagra Brands Foundation**

*Conagra Brands Foundation believes everyone has a right to healthy and nutritious food knowing that food insecurity exists in every U.S. county. To make an impact and raise awareness of food insecurity, the Conagra Brands Foundation engages our employees, partners with leading local and national nonprofits, and inspires others to create a world where people have access to the food they need to reach their full potential. The Conagra Brands Foundation develops national partnerships with leading nonprofit organizations to leverage expertise and resources that ensure people have access to quality, wholesome food and knowledge to live healthy, active lives. Conagra Brands Foundation partners with Feeding America and its network of 200 food banks across the U.S. For more information, please visit <http://www.conagrabrands.com/our-company/corporate-social-responsibility/conagra-brands-foundation>. The Conagra Brands Foundation is funded by Conagra Brands.*

### **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 46 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. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org), find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.*