



# Eastern Illinois Foodbank

## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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### **Eastern Illinois Foodbank Partners with Champaign Park District for Summer Block Parties**

URBANA, Illinois – Eastern Illinois Foodbank and the Champaign Park District are partnering in summer 2017 to bring food distributions to block parties being held in various neighborhoods across Champaign-Urbana.

The first Summer Block Party is Thursday, May 25 from 5-7pm at Countrybrook Apartments in west Champaign. In addition to the food distribution, the party will feature inflatables, face painting, lawn games, live performances including CUpers, interactive music by DJ Fireproof and other free activities.

Pantry staples, fresh produce, bread and bakery items will be available. These distributions are sponsored with a generous donation from Joy George. The food distribution is open to the public, in addition to the residents of Countrybrook Apartments, who meet income eligibility guidelines (below). It is a first-come, first-serve distribution and attendees should bring their own bags or boxes to haul their goods.

"This is an organic partnership that will allow us another innovative solution to feeding our hungry neighbors," said Jim Hires, President & CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. "We're grateful that the Park District was open to new ideas that will feed and serve residents of Champaign-Urbana."

Similar distributions will be held at each of this summer's block parties. Dates and locations are listed below and each are from 5-7pm:

- 5/25 - Country Brook Apartments, 2502 W Springfield Ave, Champaign
- 6/22 - Garden Hills Park, 1674 Bloomington Rd, Champaign
- 7/27 - TBD by the Park District
- 8/1 - Beardsley Park, N Walnut St & E Eureka St, Champaign

All local residents who meet income eligibility criteria are welcome to receive food. To be eligible, a household must have an income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level, or approximately \$3,746 per month for a family of four. People will be required to self-attest to their monthly household income. Full eligibility criteria are listed below:

Household Size	Monthly Income at or below
1	\$1,832
2	\$2,470
3	\$3,108
4	\$3,746
5	\$4,385
6	\$5,023
7	\$5,663
8+	\$6,304

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*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 a 17-county service area in cooperation with over 200 member agencies and programs. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides meals to more than 116,000 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.*