



Fiscal Year 2021: July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021

2021 **ANNUAL REPORT**

Alleviating hunger. Nourishing stronger communities.

Year in Review

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of Hunger

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A photograph of two young children, a boy and a girl, sitting together. The boy, on the right, is wearing a blue jacket over a red Spider-Man t-shirt and is holding a whole orange. The girl, on the left, is wearing a grey hoodie and is also holding a whole orange. They are both looking at the camera with happy expressions. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a window or a bright outdoor area.

Your gifts help their
busy mom feed her
family. Meet April, a local
preschool teacher, inside.

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Kelly Daly, Ex-Officio

President & CEO, Eastern Illinois Foodbank

Contact us

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The Daly Briefing



Friends like you enable the Foodbank to break new ground on much-needed expansions that increase our reach into the community!

Dear Friend,

You contributed to so much progress in a challenging year. I can't express enough gratitude for your support.

With your help, the Foodbank increased our efficiency by adding trucks to our fleet and building a second loading dock. Together, these improvements allow us to distribute more fresh produce. It's the healthiest, most nutritious food we provide—and everyone loves it!

We also conducted a survey to find out more about the culturally relevant foods that are preferred by our neighbors who experience food insecurity. We've added those items into our inventory so we can provide them to our pantries, soup kitchens, and other partners.

Better client data collection gives us a clearer picture of what's happening in each community, so we can take that information and provide the services that are needed where they're needed.

Finally, we have plans to expand our facility through a capital campaign. By adding storage space—and especially cold storage—we will be able to distribute even more fresh food throughout the 18 counties we serve.

It's our goal to ensure the Foodbank is a valuable resource for our community for decades to come. Generous friends like you are making that happen!

I hope you'll continue to support us this holiday season, as recovery from the pandemic begins and government assistance tapers off. We want to meet the needs of every single person experiencing food insecurity. With your continued support, I know we can do it.

Gratefully,

Kelly W. Daly

Kelly Daly, President & CEO

The Faces of Hunger

Hunger can happen to anyone. Loss of income, loss of a family member, a sudden illness or other unforeseen expense. Events like this are all too common in our lives, and when they catch us off guard, putting food on the table can quickly become a serious concern.

This is what makes your Foodbank a critical safety net for eastern Illinois. With your support, we're here for our neighbors in crisis—whether they're dealing with something very personal or a broader issue like the pandemic. Thank you for ensuring we can serve neighbors like April every day of the year!

“Busy” doesn’t begin to describe April. A single mom with three little ones ages 2, 4, and 8, April’s days are a flurry of activity, from breakfast to bedtime.

But it’s not just her own children keeping her occupied. April is also a full-time preschool teacher who pours tons of love and energy into her class’ healthy development.

“It’s been good having the extra food when I need it. It’s nice to get a variety of things that you wouldn’t normally think you could get. —April”

A challenging job in any season, teaching has taken on an extra dimension in the era of COVID-19. Our educators must now juggle their usual lesson plans with ensuring their students are taking the latest safety precautions. But while her days are stressful, April cherishes making an impact in these kids’ lives.

Unfortunately, as a single parent, April can’t always stretch her preschool teacher’s salary as far as she needs to. “I ran into a hard time recently,” she shares. “And I didn’t know what help was available.”

How would April provide enough healthy food for her children?

Thanks to generous friends like you, the answer to that question rolled



Single mom April is grateful for your help feeding her three little ones.

right into April’s neighborhood: one of our Foodmobiles.

These mobile units bring fresh produce, dairy, and proteins directly to communities in greatest need across the 18 counties we serve.

With your help, the Foodbank is supporting the health of our neighbors facing food insecurity—children, seniors, and parents like April—by supplying the nourishment their diets are missing.

“It’s been good having the extra food when I need it,” April says. “It’s nice to get a variety of things that you wouldn’t normally think you could get.”

April is especially grateful for the fresh fruits and veggies she can give her growing kids.

“Thank you for helping those in need!” she says to friends like you.

Please see page 8 to help more neighbors like this devoted mom and educator! You can make the holidays special for local families facing hunger with another generous gift today.



Thanks to your support, April can pick up a box full of healthy food whenever her cupboards are empty.

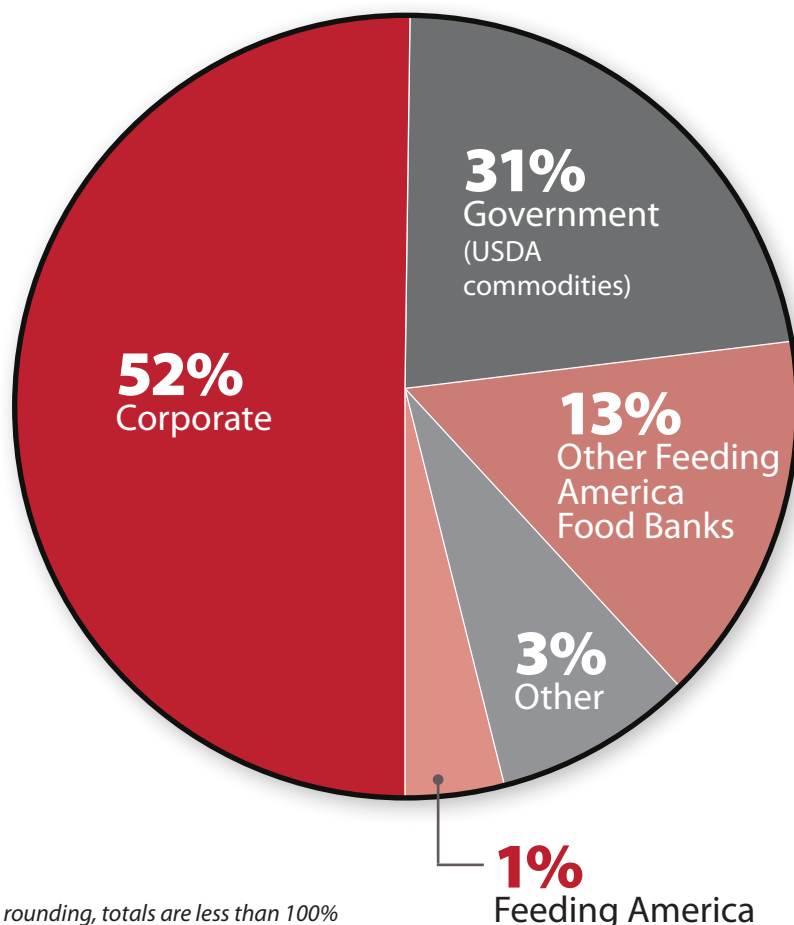


ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal year 2021

July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021

WHERE OUR FOOD COMES FROM



FINANCIAL REPORT

Public Support & Revenue

Contributions	\$4,036,624.30
Government grants & contracts	\$1,017,903.00
Other grants	\$846,198.33
Program revenue	\$429,455.14
Other income	\$268,140.34
Total Public Support & Revenue	\$6,598,321.11

Expenses

Program services	\$22,974,653.56
Fundraising	\$739,782.59
Management & General	\$333,064.40
Total Expenses	\$24,047,500.55

Non-Operating

Investment income (expense)	\$303,580.31
Loss on sale of long-lived assets	\$303,580.31
Total Non-Operating	\$38,752.97

Change in Net Assets **\$2,539,314.93**

Net Assets, beginning of year	\$7,634,590.05
Net Assets, end of year	\$10,173,904.98

Thank you, volunteers!

Of the many challenges the pandemic presented, keeping volunteers and staff safe was one of the most crucial. However, even with reduced opportunities, our loyal volunteers...

Repacked **18,000 pounds of food**

Distributed **more than 63,000 meals** through Foodmobiles

And brought hope to our neighbors facing hunger.



HIGHLIGHTS

The pandemic impacted each of EIF's operations differently, and our Foodmobile and School Market programs were the most affected by the unprecedented challenges that we faced last year.



Our fleet of trucks **traveled 184,000 miles last year**, delivering food and picking up donated product.



76,000 pounds of food, including 29,000 pounds of fresh produce, were distributed to 4,600 individuals and 1,000 children through 38 Foodmobiles held on Saturday mornings in rural and under-served communities.



To combat weekend hunger, **58,000 backpacks full of food** were distributed to students from our Backpack Program partners, Feeding Our Kids and Food 4 Kids.



We distributed food to **more than 350,000 children, families, and seniors** through our network of food pantries.



More than 500 schoolchildren and their families were provided food through our School Market Program.

11.7 million pounds of food, including 2.2 million pounds of produce, were distributed to our network of partner food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and other feeding programs. **That's 9.7 million meals for our neighbors facing hunger.**



VOLUNTEER MILESTONES

The following Foodbank volunteers also reached milestones in FY21:

1,000+ HOURS
Marvin Piwoni

500+ HOURS
Les & Rita Schulte

Thank you to the donors who supported our mission in FY21.



Mission Impact Awards

Business Partner of the Year – APEX Clean Energy

Apex Clean Energy partnered with EIF last year to sponsor operations of the Foodbank's new mobile distribution truck—a truck with sides that slide up and down so that food can be distributed directly from the vehicle, allowing EIF to more efficiently travel into rural and underserved neighborhoods. Apex Clean Energy provided EIF with \$60,000 to help fund operations of the truck, including fuel and maintenance, for three years.

"Apex Clean Energy is proud to accept a Mission Impact Award for 2021. Two of our core values at Apex are Safety and Sustainability, and as a values-driven company, we have a responsibility to be an active member of the communities in which we work," said Josh Hartke, Illinois Field Manager at Apex Clean Energy, Inc. "Eastern Illinois Foodbank's work to alleviate hunger throughout the region helps to make each of our local communities safer and more sustainable by meeting immediate needs for food security. We're thrilled that our partnership with EIF is making such a great impact on local agencies and the many people who rely on them."



“...We're thrilled that our partnership with EIF is making such a great impact on local agencies and the many people who rely on them.

—Josh Hartke, Illinois Field Manager at Apex Clean Energy, Inc.



Tuscola Warrior Store, one of EIF's school market partners, received a new refrigerator with funds from the ILCHF grant. "I can now get things I normally wouldn't be able to order," Warrior Store director Katie Wienke said. "We can get fresh meat and other cold items."

Community Partner of the Year – Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation

ILCHF has been a generous supporter of Eastern Illinois Foodbank for several years, and substantially increased their contribution in the past fiscal year when they awarded EIF with a \$162,500 Children's Nutrition Grant to allow EIF to purchase equipment for our School Market and Backpack partners.

"Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation (ILCHF) is a statewide foundation focused on improving the mental and oral health of Illinois' children. Understanding the critical connection between access to healthy foods and children's overall health, the vision of the Foundation is that every child in Illinois grows up healthy," said Bob Egan, Senior Program Officer. "ILCHF is keenly aware of how the pandemic exacerbated the stark inequities in many communities, leading to challenges in ensuring access to healthy foods for all children throughout the state. For these reasons, ILCHF is proud to partner with Eastern Illinois Foodbank to help provide nutritious food to children and their families."

Our growth and success would not be possible without the support of our community and donors. These dedicated individuals and companies have helped Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) further our mission of alleviating hunger and nourishing stronger communities. We would not be able to fight hunger without you!

Lifetime Giving Award – Michael Barnhardt

Mike Barnhardt first started giving to EIF more than two decades ago, and over the years, his generous support has provided the equivalent of more than 270,000 meals for our neighbors facing food insecurity. In addition, Mike volunteers at Foodmobiles as a Foodmobile Captain, a volunteer specially designated to oversee the distribution.

“There are many opportunities available at both the Foodbank and off-site at food distributions for volunteers to contribute time and money, which is why I like Eastern Illinois Foodbank,” said Mike. “The effect of your contribution is immediate and visible and offers a personal satisfaction most other nonprofit organizations don’t offer.”



Food Donor of the Year – Central Illinois Produce – What Chefs Want

Eastern Illinois Foodbank has had a long history of partnership with Central Illinois Produce – What Chefs Want. This fiscal year, through the dedication of their staff, including VP of Operations Gary Baker, Central Illinois Produce – What Chefs Want provided more than 2 million pounds of fresh produce to EIF, helping increase the amount of nutritious, healthy food that is distributed to our neighbors facing food insecurity.

“Our decades-long relationship with the Eastern Illinois Foodbank is driven by our desire to provide produce to the food insecure on products that otherwise might not be eaten at all,” said John Rollins, owner of Central Illinois Produce – What Chefs Want. “This would not be possible without the efforts of the Foodbank and their team of dedicated personnel who put it all together.”

Mission Impact Awards – FLEX-N-GATE

Employees from FLEX-N-GATE organized a companywide virtual food drive last December, and through their efforts raised the equivalency of feeding a family of four for three months! In addition, a group of employees visits EIF regularly as volunteers to repackage bulk food into family-sized portions that can be distributed throughout our 18-county service area.

“Flex-N-Gate is pleased to support EIF’s efforts. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, it really brought to light a significant need in our community. We viewed this as our opportunity to actively participate in the effort to help others who were facing real life challenges with putting food on the table,” said Tom Litwiller, Project Engineer at FLEX-N-GATE. “The virtual food drive and food repacks have been great ways for us to support the effort and learn how EIF impacts those who are food insecure. Knowing that our team’s efforts to help others are bringing much needed assistance is profoundly gratifying and humbling at the same time.”



Mission Impact Awards – Amanda Baker

Each year EIF honors its Mission Impact award winners during a Partner Recognition Event, and last year that was not possible due to the pandemic. Faced with the prospect of hosting a virtual event, EIF turned to videographer Amanda Baker to film and edit interviews and footage of the award winners. Amanda provided her skills, knowledge, and expertise to create a video for EIF to use during the virtual event as an in-kind donation.



"Storytelling is such a powerful way to get people to engage in a message, and if that's how I can best serve Eastern Illinois Foodbank, I'm here for it!"

Mission Impact Awards – Jason Reda

Jason's relationship with EIF began through the annual Prom Benefit fundraiser, when in 2019 he was crowned Prom King by raising a record-breaking \$17,350 for hunger relief. Last year, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, he organized a fundraiser that provided the equivalent of nearly 14,000 meals for our neighbors facing food insecurity.

"Before attending my first function with EIF, I was unaware of how many people fall short on food every day in our community. It was an eye-opening experience," Jason said. "After learning that even a small amount can go a long way with



EIF, it made me want to become more involved. From there, I used some of my resources to help not only raise money, but also, awareness of the struggle that our community members face on a daily basis. I'm grateful for the ability to help."

Mission Impact Awards – Illini Radio Group

Last March, Illini Radio Group coordinated a month-long fundraising campaign that culminated on April 1— "April Foods Day." DJs from WIXY 100.3 broadcast live from an event at Ruler Fields in Champaign, where members of the community were encouraged to bring donations. Contributions to the campaign provided the equivalent of more than 137,000 meals for people facing food insecurity in eastern Illinois.



Stay connected to the work you support! Please visit eifoodbank.org to learn more.



HERE IS MY HOLIDAY GIFT TO ALLEVIATE HUNGER

Yes, I'll help ensure local kids, families, and seniors have the wholesome food they need to make this season special.

I'm sending a gift of:

☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ Please send me information about the Plate Fillers monthly giving program.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please make your check payable to:

Eastern Illinois Foodbank

2405 North Shore Drive | Urbana, IL 61802

Your donation is tax deductible to the full extent of the law.
We will send you a receipt for your records.



Eastern Illinois
FOODBANK

MEMBER OF
FEEDING AMERICA

FEEDING ILLINOIS

Please charge my gift on my credit card:

☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISC

CARD NUMBER _____

SECURITY # _____

SIGNATURE _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

To charge your gift by phone, please call (217) 328-3663.

It's easy! Give online at eifoodbank.org

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@ _____