



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Eastern Illinois Foodbank Receives \$87,000 Grant from Local Jewel-Osco Foundation Nourishing Neighbors to Help Feed School Children During Summer

URBANA, IL — 08/12/2021 — Eastern Illinois Foodbank continues to help provide food assistance to those facing food insecurity and is honored that Jewel-Osco Foundation Nourishing Neighbors is helping. Eastern Illinois Foodbank announced today that it received an \$87,000 grant from the Nourishing Neighbors Summer Meals program to help feed children during the summer. The program is part of Jewel-Osco's Nourishing Neighbors Community Relief Initiative.

Funds from the grant will be used to bring 17 foodmobiles to McLean County targeting families with school-aged children. Foodmobiles are a system of mobile food pantries designed to increase access to nutritionally-dense food for residents in rural and under-served communities. Each foodmobile delivers approximately 10,000 pounds of food to 160 households facing with hunger.

"With school out for the summer, many children in our community don't have adequate access to proper nutrition. While Eastern Illinois Foodbank works hard to meet the needs of these children, we need help to accomplish this mission," said Kelly Daly, President and CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. "We're grateful that Jewel-Osco Foundation Nourishing Neighbors are partnering with us to keep kids fed this summer."

Eastern Illinois Foodbank works to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois through cooperation of a network of food pantries, agencies and programs. The Foodbank distributes donated and discounted food throughout an 18-county service area to feed more than 100,000 individuals each year.

Jewel-Osco Nourishing Neighbors summer meals grants help organizations that work to bridge the nutrition gap for students without access to school meal programs during the summer break.

"We're honored to partner with Eastern Illinois Foodbank to help support their efforts in the fight against hunger," said Mike Withers, Jewel-Osco Division President. "We're particularly grateful to be able to help fill the stomachs of children in our community so they can enjoy their summer break without the gnawing feeling of hunger. Community partners like Eastern Illinois Foodbank are key in helping us nourish our neighbors."

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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 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 Jewel-Osco

Jewel-Osco is a vital part of Albertsons Inc., a privately held grocery company that is proud to continue serving the Chicagoland area and beyond. In 2013, parent company—AB Acquisition LLC—acquired Jewel-Osco from SUPERVALU. This transaction brought all Albertsons stores under singular ownership, and additionally expanded to include ACME Markets, Shaw's and Star Markets to its growing roster of food and drug retailers. In 2015, the parent company doubled its store base through the completion of a merger with Safeway. At present, Jewel-Osco operates 188 stores throughout the Chicagoland area, Indiana and Iowa, part of a 2,200+ store operation employing over 265,000 people nationwide.