



TRI-STATE FOOD BANK

A member of **FEEDING
AMERICA**

2020 Impact Report

A MESSAGE *from Glenn*

As we turned the calendar to January 2020, our food bank was prepared for a historic year. We had just begun the renovation of a warehouse facility that would double our capacity — an expansion sorely needed for us to meet the Tri-State’s hunger relief need. The completion date was set for June 1, 2020, and while we knew we would face many obstacles associated with the project, our team was ready to rise to the challenge.

Nothing could have prepared us for what unfolded next. COVID-19 tore through our community, resulting in hunger rates, unlike anything we’ve seen. **Tens of thousands of people found themselves facing hunger for the first time**, and the expansion of our services became an immediate and critical need. But the pandemic presented a series of complex challenges for our food bank: a decrease in food donations, rising food costs, fewer volunteers to help pack food, not enough staff to support the need, and a pandemic requiring rigorous new health standards. **The odds were stacked against us.**

Then, something remarkable happened. **Our community rose to the challenge.** We received phone calls and letters from people across the Tri-State who wanted to help. Businesses held food drives, volunteers donned PPE and returned to packing food boxes, and the Indiana National Guard came to our aid. In the midst of a global pandemic, our community not only kept operations running — they helped us

aggressively scale our work to broaden the reach of our programs, complete our expansion project, and provide a historic 12.1 million meals for our neighbors in need. Looking at this another way — in 2020, our community helped us provide **one meal every three seconds.**



I cannot overstate how deeply grateful I am for the people whose generosity made this possible.

But, unfortunately, **our work is far from over.** 144,940 people in the Tri-State are projected to face hunger due to the impacts of COVID-19. **Over 48,000 of them are children.** For them, this crisis will continue long after the stories of food bank lines have left the public eye, and, for them, we know we must continue operating at historic levels to meet the need.

With your support, we have the potential to emerge from this crisis stronger and better positioned to meet this community need. **Your generosity has made an incredible difference so far, and we hope you will continue to partner with us to ensure hope remains for those who are still facing hunger.**

Thank you for trusting us with this important work, and for joining us in the fight against hunger.

Glenn Roberts
Executive Director

COVID-19 ESCALATES *Food Insecurity*

Throughout the Tri-State Food Bank network, we have witnessed rising need in the wake of COVID-19. 144,940 people (1 in 6) in the Tri-State are projected to face hunger due to the impacts of the pandemic. This includes 48,940 children (1 in 4).

1 in 6 of our neighbors may face hunger this year.



This includes **96,000** adults and **48,940** children

PANDEMIC RESPONSE

As we confront the likelihood of a prolonged need for hunger relief, Tri-State food Bank is redirecting its resources to keep the flow of food steady in an evolving and complex environment. Alongside our network of more than 240 food pantries and meal programs, we are moving forward with innovative solutions that ensure reliable access to healthy food. Since January of 2020, we have focused resources on community-based food access points through mobile food distributions. We have invested in our food assistance partners to increase their capacity to store perishables and fresh produce. And we have expanded our transportation infrastructure to increase deliveries to food pantries and meal programs across the Tri-State Food Bank network.



— Increased distribution by **47%**

Increased our food budget by **60%** to meet rising costs

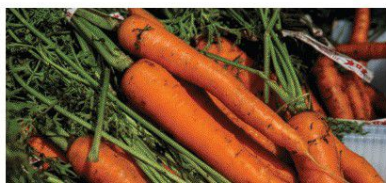
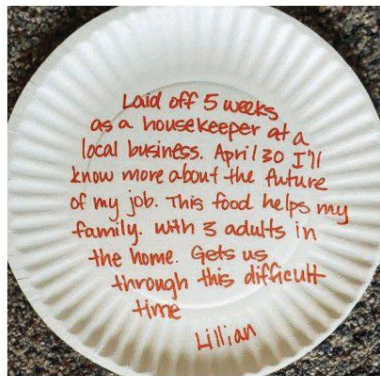


— Invested **\$153,567** into food and cold storage units for our network of feeding partners

Increased the number of meals provided through our mobile food distributions by **336%**



— Added **four** trucks to our food delivery fleet to increase food distribution across the Tri-State



2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

47% INCREASE

12,177,937
MEALS DISTRIBUTED



14,613,525 TOTAL POUNDS
OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED

47% INCREASE

70% INCREASE

3,296 PEOPLE invested in our work including **1,822** new supporters



240 Food Pantries & Meal Programs

58,715

WEEKEND BACKPACKS DISTRIBUTED TO **2,033** CHILDREN



116 MOBILE PANTRIES providing **802,421** meals to **24,056** households and **69,120** individuals

336% INCREASE

71% INCREASE

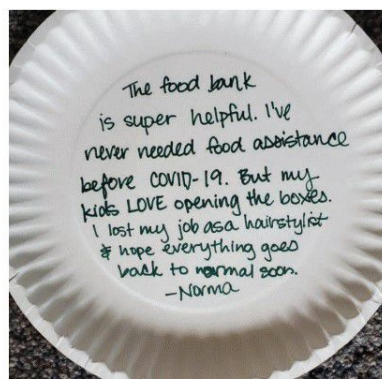
25,749 distributed through **39** sites to **3,147** SENIOR MEAL BOXES low-income senior citizens



Over 980 VOLUNTEERS and **48**

Indiana National Guard Soldiers donated a combined **13,595** hours.

Invested in **COLD STORAGE UNITS** for our feeding partners, **TRUCKS** to expand our food delivery fleet, **PALLET JACKS** and **FORKLIFTS** to improve warehouse efficiency, and **STAFF** to sustain our increased response to the need for hunger relief.



EMERGING STRONGER *Together*

We have the potential to emerge from this crisis stronger and even better positioned to meet the evolving needs of our community. Our long-term priorities include:

- Updating our strategic plan to further address systemic issues in our communities
- Continuing to meet the increased need, including that of people relying on our support for the very first time
- Expanding our Weekend BackPack Food for Kids program to reach more children in need across the Tri-State
- Opening a cold storage facility in Vienna, IL to increase distribution of nutritious, fresh produce to Illinois families facing hunger
- Increasing our Senior Meal Box program response to serve the needs of even more seniors—a population that is disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
- Expanding our food storage capacity to include the upper level of our warehouse



HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Give Funds

Become a recurring monthly donor. It's an easy and convenient way to give and support Tri-State Food Bank's work year-round. Set up a recurring gift and we will take care of the rest.



Donate Online

Right now, 1 in 6 people in the Tri-State don't have enough to eat. Your gift will help provide food and hope to hungry children, families, and seniors right here in our community.
www.tristatefoodbank.org



By Mail

We also accept gifts by mail. Please make check payable to Tri-State Food Bank and send to:
Tri-State Food Bank
2504 Lynch Road
Evansville, IN 47711



By Phone

If you would like to make a gift by phone, you can do so by calling:
Mardi File
Donor Relations Manager
(812) 303-3590

Give Food

Food from industry partners and community food drives is vital to helping us provide food for better lives each year. To learn more about hosting a food drive, visit our website at www.tristatefoodbank.org or call Keith Lehman, Operations Director, at (812) 303-3575.

Give Time

Volunteer your time and talent individually, or as a group, to help feed our neighbors in need. Volunteers may sign up on our website: www.tristatefoodbank.org