



## **Northeast Iowa Food Bank Earns 970 AIB Score, Ranking Among Top Performers in Feeding America Network**

**WATERLOO, Iowa (February 17, 2026)** — The Northeast Iowa Food Bank has earned a 970 out of 1000 on its biennial audit conducted by the American Institute of Baking (AIB) on February 3, 2026, demonstrating continued excellence in food safety and operational standards.

The comprehensive, scored Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) inspection evaluates critical areas including food handling, personnel practices, maintenance for food safety, cleaning practices, integrated pest management, and the adequacy of prerequisite and food safety programs.

The audit identified no serious or unsatisfactory findings, and the Food Bank received perfect scores (200/200) in:

- Operational Methods and Personnel Practices
- Maintenance for Food Safety
- Cleaning Practices

“Food safety is foundational to our mission and our responsibility to the communities we serve,” said Barbara Prather, Executive Director of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. “From the moment food enters our facility to the moment it reaches our partner agencies and neighbors, we are committed to the highest standards of care, accountability, and stewardship. This strong score reflects the discipline and dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners.”

The inspection occurred while the Food Bank continues to advance its Capacity Campaign and facility improvements, underscoring the organization’s ability to maintain rigorous standards during growth and expansion.

The AIB audit supports the Food Bank's mission to provide food and grocery products to nonprofit organizations and individuals facing food insecurity across its 16-county service area, while offering hunger education and outreach programs throughout northeast Iowa. To learn more or get involved, visit [neifb.org](http://neifb.org).

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**About NEIFB:** The Northeast Iowa Food Bank (NEIFB) is a proud member of Feeding America® and the Iowa Food Bank Association. NEIFB distributes nutritious food and grocery products to over 140 nonprofit organizations and programs that help families and individuals facing food insecurity. Last year, the Food Bank distributed over 8.4 million meals within its 16-county service area. For over 40 years, the Food Bank has alleviated hunger and provided nutrition education through its eight programs: Agency Distribution, BackPack, Cedar Valley Food Pantry, Kids Café, Mobile Food Pantry, School Market, Senior Nutrition, and Summer Feeding. To learn more, visit [neifb.org](http://neifb.org) and follow us on social media.