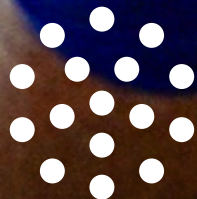




**HUNGER DOESN'T
TAKE A BREAK**

FALL 2026



**NORTHEAST IOWA
FOOD BANK**

From the Director



Since 1981, the Northeast Iowa Food Bank has provided nutritious food and grocery products to individuals and families across northeast Iowa. Over the past 45 years, much has changed, but one thing has remained constant: hunger does not take a break.

As the needs of our communities have changed, the Food Bank has changed with them. Today, as we look to the future, our work is centered around three priorities: Connect, Provide and Sustain. Together, they will guide how we ensure people across northeast Iowa have access to the food they need, when and where they need it.

For 45 years, the Food Bank has been here when our communities needed us. We are there through our network of partner pantries when life's challenges make it difficult to put food on the table. We respond when disasters strike, from floods and tornadoes to a pandemic or government shutdown. We provide meals to children after school and during the summer, support community meal sites, and distribute food through programs across our 16-county service area. And those are only some of the ways the Food Bank shows up every day.

Now, as we look ahead and prepare to fully utilize our newly renovated and expanded space, we will continue to evolve.

We will **CONNECT** by strengthening our partner network, expanding access to SNAP resources and building a stronger advocacy network so more people can access the support available to them.

We will **PROVIDE** by increasing the amount and variety of food available through local, regional and national partnerships, with a continued focus on providing nutritious food that meets the needs of the people we serve.

And we will **SUSTAIN** this work by investing in our staff, facilities, technology and organizational effectiveness. Supporting all three priorities is our ability to build strong partnerships through fundraising, volunteer engagement and community support.

These three priorities will help ensure the Northeast Iowa Food Bank is here for years to come, fulfilling our commitment to **Every Meal. Every Day. Everyone.**

We are grateful to everyone who has been part of this journey over the past 45 years, and we ask you to continue alongside us as we begin this next chapter. It takes all of us working together to ensure food is available whenever and wherever it is needed, because hunger doesn't take a break.

On behalf of those we serve, thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Prather". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Our Board

Michelle Swanson, Jennifer Peters, Meagan Miller, Rob Victor, Caleb Krecklow, Cheryl Erb, Doug Wiering, Emily Girsch, Houston Campbell, Ken Cutts, Kyle Baker, Leonard Hanson, Matt Wolcott, Nikki Kuhn, Reggie Schmitt, Ryan Rand, Steve Sesterhenn, Susan Hauber, Tavis Hall, Jordan Kettner, Timi Brown-Powers.

Our Leadership

Barbara Prather, Alisha Rulapaugh, Shannon Bass, Ashley Christensen, Abby Turpin, Becca Huber.

Our Staff

Felicia Arias, Megan Beaman, Jeff Bowman, Randy Claassen, Linda Denton, Jenn Diehl, Caitlin Dolly, Kyle Duggan, Jeff Eastman, Jim Flood, Carlin French, Craig Gorman, Kayti Grable, Tia Gutierrez, Mattie Hendrickson, Elizabeth Hill, Kat Hogan, Queen Holmes, Ashley Holub, David Howard, Brooklynn Jones, Kyle Konigsmark, Scott Lange, Tasha Lee, Lisa Levendusky, Rhonda McBride, Raechel Miller, Amber Moreland, Tyson Roberts, Amelia Samuelson, Bri Sassaman, Lisa Spitler, Kirsten Spurgin, Becca Strong, Bram Sutton, Ray Talbert, Alyson Walker, Becky Webb, Michael Weidman, Freddie Williams.

In Case You Missed It

Personal Care Drive

Our annual Personal Care Drive, held July 1 to August 10, was a huge success! With 45 drop-off locations, we have collected over 2,600 pounds of personal care items, including soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and more for people in northeast Iowa who may not have the means to purchase them. Stay tuned for our final numbers as more donations are received!



Iowa Hunger Summit

In July, members of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank team joined the Iowa Food Bank Association at the World Food Prize Foundation Iowa Hunger Summit. We were honored to hear from Feeding America CEO, Denis McDonough, and join leaders from across Iowa in important conversations about strengthening food security and fighting hunger..

John Deere 5k

The John Deere 5K once again brought the Cedar Valley community together to celebrate Waterloo's rich John Deere history while supporting a great cause. Thanks to the generosity of participants and John Deere, \$4,468.57 was raised for NEIFB. We are grateful for this partnership and everyone who laced up their running shoes to help fight hunger!



Coming Up!

Hunger Action Month

It's Hunger Action Month! September is the official month dedicated to the fight against hunger with many events, fundraisers, and initiatives. Be on the lookout for key events such as Fall Sack Lunch, Checker's Stone Soul Picnic, and more. Follow us on social media and visit neifb.org to stay up to date on all Hunger Action Month events.



Student Food Drive

Every October, local school districts compete to collect food, volunteer, and raise funds for community members facing food insecurity. Last year, local students raised over \$16,000, collected 5,454 pounds of food, and contributed enough to provide over 40,000 meals! Learn more at neifb.org.

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR ORANGE ON SEPTEMBER 29 FOR HUNGER ACTION DAY!

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL
THINGS NEIFB!



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS KEEP HUNGER RELIEF MOVING FORWARD



As construction continues on the Northeast Iowa Food Bank's new cooler, freezer, and kitchen as part of our Capacity Campaign, strong community partnerships are helping ensure there is no interruption in serving individuals and families across northeast Iowa. Thanks to the generosity of local partners, our team has been able to continue operations while preparing for the future.

One of those partners is Crystal Distribution Services, which has become an extension of our warehouse during construction. Four refrigerated trailers, including three coolers and one freezer, are stationed at the Food Bank, while our entire frozen inventory, more than 300 pallets, is being stored at Crystal's facility. Their team receives frozen deliveries, including USDA food, pulls agency orders, builds pallets, and prepares them for our staff to stage and deliver. Their support has allowed us to continue providing frozen food to our partner agencies without interruption while construction is underway.

Another valued partner is the Waterloo Convention Center, which has opened its kitchen to our staff each weekday throughout the summer and will continue doing so through November. While our kitchen is being renovated, their space has allowed us to prepare meals for the Summer Feeding Program and will soon support meal preparation for our Kids Café Program when school begins. Despite hosting a full schedule of events, the Convention Center has graciously shared its kitchen, so children across northeast Iowa continue receiving nutritious meals.

These partnerships are a reminder that fighting hunger takes a community. We are especially grateful to the teams at Crystal Distribution Services and the Waterloo Convention Center, including Jim and Chef Scott, for stepping up during this important chapter in our history. Their support is helping ensure we can continue providing food today while building the capacity to serve even more people in the years ahead.

TABLE FOR TOMORROW:

NOURISHING HOPE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

At the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, we believe food is a basic human right. While gifts made today help provide meals for individuals and families facing hunger right now, planned gifts help ensure that same support is available for years to come.

In June, we introduced Table for Tomorrow, the Northeast Iowa Food Bank's planned giving initiative, recognizing individuals and families who choose to include the Food Bank in their will, trust, retirement account, or other estate plans.

A planned gift, regardless of size, is a compassionate way to continue caring for your community beyond your lifetime. These future gifts help strengthen the Food Bank's ability to distribute nutritious food, maintain our facilities, respond to changing community needs, and serve individuals and families across the 16 counties we serve.

Many planned gifts are easier to arrange than people realize. Whether you're creating a will for the first time or updating an existing estate plan, including the Northeast Iowa Food Bank can often be done with a simple addition.

If you've already included the Northeast Iowa Food Bank in your estate plans, thank you. We would be honored to recognize you as a member of Table for Tomorrow.

To learn more about Table for Tomorrow or request planned giving materials, please contact Abby Turpin, Director of Development, Marketing, and Communications, at 319-304-9051 or by email at aturpin@neifb.org.

Thank you for standing with us and helping ensure everyone always has a seat at the table.



A Legacy of Leadership & Service

In June, the Northeast Iowa Food Bank recognized two extraordinary members of its Board of Directors as they concluded their service. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Kirsten Juhl for 16 years of dedicated leadership and service, and to Jeanne Miller for an incredible 22 years of commitment to NEIFB.

Throughout their years on the Board, Kirsten and Jeanne helped guide and strengthen the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, ensuring we could continue fulfilling our mission of providing nutritious food northeast lowans facing food insecurity.

“Kirsten and Jeanne have each left an incredible legacy through their years of service,” said Executive Director Barb Prather. “Their thoughtful leadership, passion for our mission, and steadfast commitment have helped shape the Northeast Iowa Food Bank into the organization it is today. We are grateful for all they have given and wish them the very best in the years ahead.”

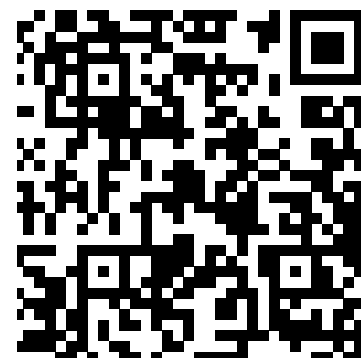
We thank Kirsten and Jeanne for their remarkable dedication, leadership, and service. Their contributions have helped strengthen our mission and will continue to make a difference for years to come.



t e a m



FIGHTING HUNGER
FOR \$16 A MONTH



Visit neifb.org to
learn more!

Honorariums & Memorials

Honorariums

Medical Professionals

By Carolyn & Tony Dietz

Betty Schuman

By Beverly Palmer

Michael Hawker & Carol Carlson

By Marcia Hawker

Ali Trost

By Susan Goodsell

James L. Robertson

By Robertson Family Trust

Service People

By Gretchen Eibey

Dale D Robbins

By Brenda Robbins

Eleanor Siech

By Amy Bogardus

Memorials

Dr. John & Bernadette McCoy

By John & Margaret McCoy

Mary Lou Mead

By Linda Paar

Steeve Weidner

By Suzanne Bembridge

Shuan Randle

By Linda Paar

Thomas Wesley Weissenfluh

By Dorothy & Wesley

Deborah Willig

By Denise Willig

Mary Douglas

David & Sue Feltman

Jim Waterbury

By Steven & Lisa

Sesterhenn

By Richard & Pamela

Delagardelle

By David & Dianne Happel

By David & Joyce Riley

By Dorothy Hutchins

Gene & Carmen Condon

By Debbie & Walter Broten

Donald Cavanaugh

By Kenneth Cavanaugh

Robert Potratz

By Linda Paar

James Hutchins

By Dorothy Hutchins

Eleanor Ann Siech

By Brown & Brown Risk
Solutions

Janis Hennings

By Steven Henning

Molly Myron

By Doland & Patricia Switzer

By Russell Curtis

By Jack & Lila Christensen

By Janise Praska

By David & Helen Duncan

By Amalia Myron

By Janelle Smeins

By Jeffrey & Wanda Fishel

By William & Susanne

Zimmerman

Rex Van Dyke

By Leann Van Dyke

Mitch Miller

By Marlys Miller

Dostal/Michael Family

By James & Mary Jo

Michael

Nadine Yeager

By Marlene Petersen

Cletus Phillips/John D.

Hager

By Richard & Marcia

Bechthold

Veterans

By Elizabeth Gerleman

Ruth Peterson

By James Peterson

Patricia Hehr

By Erhard Hehr

Dan Graham

By David & Sue Feltman

Gail McCollough

By Richard Wilcox

Clayton Lee Dietz

By Lee & Amaryllis Lindgren

Doris Chabal

By Scott Whitcome

Evelyn D. Kehret

By Douglas & Maxine Kehret

Forrest, Donna, & Warren

Timmerman

By Barry Timmerman

Orville & Jacque Mauer

By Mary Mauer

Laverna Rizner

By Elaine Harvey

Jim Pyle

By Beverly Pyle

John H Penney

By Donna Boerjan

Elaine Lee

By Sandra Kahler

Bess Manesis

By Aaron Dennis

Patrick Derifield

By Carole Gustafson

Fred Johnson

By Suzanne Bembridge

Lavonne Dorman

By Don Dorman

Clayton Lee Dietz

By Lee & Amaryllis Lingren

THANK YOU!
FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

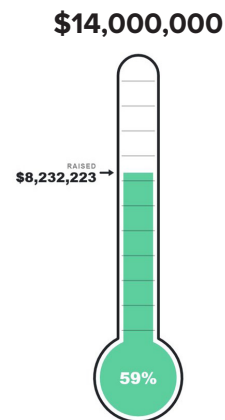
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