

TASTE of HOPE

WINTER
2019



SECOND
HARVEST
— food bank —
OF EAST CENTRAL INDIANA

Help for Today and
Hope for Tomorrow

A Word From Our CEO



Tim Kean, President & CEO

Great Opportunities In Front of Us

We have over 1,500 families who are engaging in our School Based Initiative! Parents are experiencing positive interactions with their child's school teachers and administration which is creating a more enriching environment for children as they navigate their educational path. Teachers and principals are getting positive feedback from parents and have told us they feel the benefits of this relationship are just beginning. During this spring we will be focusing a significant amount of time in data collection regarding what this interaction has produced. Schools continue to reach out to us with interest to discuss getting this initiative started in their school.

We will also be reaching out to other service providers, such as financial institutions, health care providers, libraries, and others to discuss the options for them to join this effort. We think there is great opportunity to enhance family engagement by offering other resources for them on site when they attend this monthly gathering.

Families involved in our Forward S.T.E.P.S. initiative are experiencing positive steps with 4 families that are new home owners, 13 enrolled in our Velocity program who earned raises in their jobs, and 53 youth were enrolled in our youth enrichment program. Our recent graduation ceremony was our 15th for this valuable community asset. One of our primary strategic goals is to expand this initiative into other counties outside of Delaware County.



Food distribution through our agency partners and our Tailgate Program looks to provide some great opportunities and challenges for us as our product mix continues to evolve more toward perishables and away from non-perishables. The opportunities for healthier food are certainly growing, but are challenging because they are from further away which makes them more expensive to transport. We are in the early stages of information collection for a necessary expansion of our cooler and freezer. This year looks to be loaded with great opportunities that we'll be sharing with you and invite your feedback.

Have a wonderful day,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Kean".

Tim Kean, President & CEO

Winter can be difficult for Hoosier families in need.

There are families who struggle to pay heating bills, there are homes with frozen pipes, and cars that won't start during this cold and snowy season. Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana wants to provide help for today by giving food to those in need and provide hope for tomorrow by addressing root causes of daily instability.

Over 67,000 East Central Indiana Hoosiers need our help and with your assistance, we can provide crucial food and resources to families in need. Please consider a gift today as we head into spring, whether it's in dollars or in time. Visit curehunger.org/get-involved to see various ways you can help.

Thank you for your generosity in helping distribute food and resources to more than 100 partnering agencies.





Forward S.T.E.P.S. Celebrates New Graduates

On January 24th, six Forward S.T.E.P.S. (support, transforming, empowerment, pathways to sustainability) individuals and their families graduated from Velocity Training! This 16-week session focuses on identifying what causes individuals to be under resourced, what keeps them there, and steps they need to take to move toward long-term stability.

Our six graduates have spent the past few months co-investigating barriers and methods to overcome their barriers. Sometimes these barriers can include need for childcare, transportation, or finishing school. Second Harvest is proud of the strength that our families have shown! By graduation three of our families have become new homeowners, three have had significant increases in their salary, and all have developed a better understanding on how to navigate their social capital and financial well-being. The graduates look forward to reinvesting into their community and continuing the relationships that they have developed through Forward S.T.E.P.S.

Forward S.T.E.P.S. is currently recruiting individuals and families interested in making a change in their life toward long-term stability. Contact Dorica Watson at dwatson@curehunger.org or Stacy Britton at sbritton@curehunger.org for more information on how to get involved.



Ball State & Second Harvest – Better Together

As Second Harvest Food Bank's 35th anniversary year has come to a close, we can look back at the vital partnerships that have helped us to succeed and reflect on the importance of community.

The community of Ball State, our neighbor since we moved to Delaware County in 2007, has become our biggest source of volunteers. Each semester we have thousands of Ball State affiliated groups and individuals that come to volunteer at our facility, helping us efficiently and effectively distribute food to those in need in East Central Indiana. Beyond volunteering, many classes reach out and use their knowledge to help us sustain and grow our many programs.

These connections have even allowed Second Harvest to cultivate relationships that have blossomed from volunteerism with students or professors to people working with Second Harvest as employees.

C.S. Hendershot, who graduated with a degree in political science in 2016 and a master's in sociology in 2018, is the current Grant Writing and Fundraising Manager of Second Harvest.

Through the relationship between BSU and Second Harvest, C.S. "had an opportunity to serve my community during my education." The university, they explained, is a hub of knowledge and expertise that is able to provide students who have skills that can help Second Harvest reach the organization's goals. Second Harvest, in turn, is a place for students to practice their knowledge in real world settings.

Judi Egbert, who taught social work for 23 years at Ball State and who was previously the Agency Relations Coordinator with Second Harvest, agreed.

She said that education goes well beyond textbook and that hands-on experience is very valuable. Involvement of students,



who make up the bulk of Second Harvest volunteers, provides ever evolving and refined ideas on how to effectively address food insecurity with limited resources. She says that students who come through our organization are made aware of the needs of their community, which they may not have known about before.

The Ball State community has become a crucial piece of Second Harvest and we are proud to be a resource to students seeking to implement their knowledge and learn more about their community. As we grow, we hope that this relationship continues to grow with us.



Exciting Multiple Grant Announcement

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana is proud to announce that it is the recipient of multiple grants across the eight counties we serve.

The Great American Milk Drive (GAMD) is a nationwide program to help deliver milk to families who need it most. Though milk is one of the most requested items, it's also one of the most difficult items to distribute because it's a perishable product. With the help of MilkPEP, we are able to purchase thousands of gallons of milk to distribute during the winter months.

The Community Foundation of Randolph County and Union City Community Fund have awarded Second Harvest with funding to support the School Pantry Program in Randolph County Schools, including Union City Jr/Sr High School, O R Baker Elementary, Deerfield Elementary, and Willard Elementary. The Henry County Community Foundation also awarded funding to help support the School Pantry Program in Henry County which includes Wilbur Wright Elementary, Parker Elementary, Eastwood Elementary, and Knightstown Elementary. This funding will help support families of students with food and resources throughout each month.

Second Harvest Food Bank also received a grant from the Ball Brothers Foundation and the George and Frances Ball Foundation to upgrade our accounting, inventory, and warehouse management software. This upgrade will take place in the spring and summer of 2019.

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana is proud to announce that it is the recipient of multiple grants

School Food Pantry Program

This year has been a triumph for the School Food Pantry Program. Our School Pantry Manager, Sunni Matters, has expanded the School Pantry Program from 23 schools at the start of the school year to 29, including our first in Grant County, which means we have pantries in all eight counties that we serve. In doing so, she has continued to grow the number of families served throughout East Central Indiana.

School food pantries have not just been important for keeping households fed, but according to Brittney Charles, Principal of Grissom Elementary School, the school pantry

distributions “has allowed my families an opportunity to connect with staff members and build relationships...we are able to use that time to see how we can support families outside of school and connect them with appropriate outside services.” These relationships strengthen the community and enrich the learning experience for teachers, students, and parents, as well as making them more welcoming for parents to get involved. For Anderson’s Tenth Street Elementary, this means a revitalization of the promising Parent Teacher Club and an increase in participation in food distribution and after school activities.

We are delighted to be part of fostering these communities, and excited to continue developing the School Food Pantry Program in East Central Indiana in this upcoming year. Watch this space to learn about new initiatives, and new opportunities to get involved.



Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana
6621 N. Old SR 3 | Muncie, IN 47303 | (765) 287-8698

Visit curehunger.org to get more info on events in your community and how you can join the fight to end food insecurity.

