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I have shared before that one of the great mysteries of hunger relief is what happens to all the hungry children in the summer. There are over 100 summer feeding sites in the 23 counties served by River Bend Foodbank. There is no enrollment process or any forms to fill out. Just show up, and a child will be fed. Yet only 1/6 of the children on the free or reduced lunch program show up at these sites.

We have listed the websites to find summer feeding sites in Iowa and Illinois on Page 3. If you know of a hungry child, please help them get to a site where they can be fed.

River Bend Foodbank supplies food to some of these summer feeding sites. We will also be active this summer stocking food pantries and hosting Mobile Food Pantries throughout our service area, because the best way to feed hungry children is to make sure their entire family has enough food.

In this newsletter, you will learn more about our efforts to feed hungry children and their families this summer. We have also reached a huge milestone in our home county, Scott County, learning things here we hope to expand to every other county we serve. You can also read about our recent Community Hunger Drive.

But it all comes down to feeding hungry people, rescuing perfectly good food that people and companies would otherwise be throwing away and getting it to people who are overjoyed to have it. We know how many people are missing how many meals in the communities we serve, and only because of your help, we are closer to distributing that many meals than ever before.

We still have some lofty goals, and there will be more to come on that soon. But for now, thank you for helping us feed these hungry children, their families, and their grandparents. Every $1 given provides 5 meals for someone in need.

Together We Can Solve Hunger™

Michael P. Miller
President & CEO
SUMMER FEEDING

In addition to being the supplier for several summer feeding sites, River Bend Foodbank focuses on these two channels to serve people who are hungry during the summer months:

**Mobile Food Pantries** — Our Mobile Food Pantries travel throughout our 23-county service area. Each distribution takes about two hours, provides around 10,000 meals, and feeds hundreds of individuals. Around fifty volunteers are needed to distribute the food and help the guests take it to their cars.

**Partner Agencies** — These food pantries, meal sites, shelters, and more are located throughout our 23 counties and serve people in need of assistance. They have varied hours and days of service. All of their information can be found on our website at riverbendfoodbank.org/find-food.

The following Community Food Pantries are great summer resources:

**Davenport Community Food Pantry**
1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday of the month 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**NorthPark Mall Food Pantry**
Tuesday 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Thursday/Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**SouthPark Mall Food Pantry**
Tuesday/Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Food Pantries throughout our 23-county service area can be found at riverbendfoodbank.org/find-food.

The following links list summer feeding sites for children throughout Iowa and Illinois and will be live in May 2020:

Illinois Summer Feeding link: [summerfeedingillinois.org](http://summerfeedingillinois.org)

Iowa Summer Feeding link: [www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks](http://www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks)
Four years ago we did an analysis of how many meals River Bend Foodbank was distributing in the 23 counties we serve compared to the need in each county. We were shocked to learn that our most underserved county was the one in which we have been located since 2014, Scott County, Iowa.

With the help of John Deere and the John Deere Foundation, the Regional Development Authority, Scott County Regional Authority, and Ascentra Credit Union, we purposed to close the Meal Gap in Scott County, including...

- **More Backpacks** — two breakfasts, lunches, and dinners that volunteers pack and deliver to schools on Fridays for children who otherwise would not have food to eat on the weekends.
- **More School Pantries** — actual food pantries located within schools, where a parent picking up their child can bring food home not just for their child, but for the entire family.
- **More Mobile Food Pantries** — wonderful events where we load one of our trucks with 10,000 meals and 40-50 volunteers find great fulfillment in handing the food out to hundreds of families.
- At one point, we gave food away here at the Foodbank, but that quickly got unmanageable.

And so ...

- We opened food pantries at two local shopping malls, each open three times a week: one morning, one afternoon/evening, and once on the weekend, a highly successful innovation.
- As these pantries have grown, they have allowed our partner agencies to grow along with us, without being overwhelmed because they are giving out more food.

Four years ago we distributed 1.1 million meals in Scott County. In the past 12 months we have distributed 3.7 million meals. And we are taking the things learned here to every county we serve.

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This year, 62 businesses raised 364,809 meals for River Bend Foodbank! These meals will help the 1 in 9 adults and 1 in 6 children who are hungry in eastern Iowa and western Illinois. Thank you so much to all of the businesses and organizations who participated.

In addition to each business receiving a participation certificate, the following businesses received an additional award for their exceptional work during the Community Hunger Drive:

**Greatest Increase in Funds Raised** — Shive-Hattery

**Most Creative Fundraising Event** — Arconic

**Rookie of the Year** — Cobham Mission Systems

**Fully Embraced Mission of River Bend Foodbank** —
- IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union
- Quad City Parrot Head Club

**Congratulations to all for a very successful Community Hunger Drive! Together We Can!**