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AMERICA**

SPECIAL INGREDIENTS

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SUMMER 2019

Providing Aid In Times Of Disaster

THE FOOD BANK HELPS PEOPLE AFFECTED BY SEVERE WEATHER

Shortly before midnight on May 22, an EF-3 tornado struck the cities of Eldon and Jefferson City. Over 600 households were affected. In the weeks that followed, severe weather caused flooding throughout our 32-county service area. As a disaster relief organization, The Food Bank jumped into action to ensure those affected would have food to eat.

Immediately after the tornado, we worked with partner agencies in Jefferson City and Eldon to continue distributing food at regularly-scheduled times. The Food Bank dispatched mobile pantries to distribute fresh produce and other foods, provided disaster relief boxes to families and individuals, and supplied snacks and water to groups of volunteers helping with clean-up or sandbagging efforts. To determine where relief was needed, The Food Bank worked with United Way of Central Missouri, Feeding America, Feeding Missouri, and Missouri Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.

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In the last few months, we have heard from many people affected by disaster. What is heartbreaking is how similar their stories are to each other. Many in



An officer with the Jefferson City Police Department picks up food from a mobile pantry to deliver to people affected by severe weather.

Jefferson City and Eldon avoided damage from the tornado only to lose food through power outages. Others, like the mother of five boys who came to one of our temporary mobile pantries, lost their homes. We gave her as much food as she could carry. People came to help their neighbors who could not transport the food themselves, including a man picking up produce for his brother whose roof had been torn off.

The Food Bank is part of the Feeding America Network. In times of disaster, members of the nationwide network work together to respond to the increased need.

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Letter From Lindsay



No responsibility is more important to The Food Bank than providing disaster relief. When an emergency displaces someone from their home, they should not have to worry about access to food. Following a tornado strike in Mid-Missouri on May 22 and flooding throughout our service area, we were there to help families in circumstances beyond their control.

The stories told by those affected by severe weather are heartbreaking. It is a harsh reality that any person could be left without a home and become food insecure within a few hours. As well as helping in the immediate aftermath of the disaster, The Food Bank will maintain its regular resources so anyone in the stages of recovery has reliable access to food.

Our work providing disaster relief also includes supporting volunteers whenever possible. We provided snacks and water to volunteers involved in the clean-up efforts in Jefferson City following the tornado and sandbagging efforts in Rocheport as the city combated rising water levels.

To accomplish our mission of providing relief, we relied on fellow members of the Feeding America Network. Food, water and other products came from organizations across Missouri and the country to give to people affected by severe weather. It is part of the network's mission to organize its efforts in times of disaster, and we are thankful to all the members who helped us give aid.

We also owe gratitude to you — our donors and volunteers. Without the resources you provide, our work to provide disaster relief and end hunger would not be possible. On behalf of all who received help in this time of great need, we thank you.

Gratefully,

Lindsay Young Lopez
Executive Director

Providing Aid In Times Of Disaster

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Feeding America sent 1,440 disaster relief boxes for The Food Bank to distribute to any person affected by the severe weather. The boxes totaled 42,200 lbs. of shelf-stable food. Harvesters Community Food Network, based in Kansas City, sent pallets of water, The Southeast Missouri Food Bank gave paper towels and toilet paper to distribute, and The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank shipped ready-to-eat snacks. The St. Louis Area Food Bank delivered water directly to volunteers helping with a sandbagging effort in Lewis County.

Fight Hunger Alongside Mizzou Athletics

SCORE AGAINST HUNGER TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE FOOD BANK

We are always trying to step up our game in the effort to end hunger. That is why we are thrilled to be the official charitable partner of Mizzou Athletics since 2016. With the University of Missouri Tigers on our side, we rally to help people facing food insecurity.

In June, Mizzou men's basketball, along with two players from the Mizzou softball team, joined us in the Volunteer Room to prepare food for distribution. **It is said volunteering with The Food Bank is an excellent team-building exercise, and the light-hearted group brought some additional laughter to our work.** We thank them, and all the other Mizzou teams who have volunteered with us, for their help.

The Food Bank's partnership with Mizzou Athletics is rooted in Score Against Hunger, a campaign started in 1995 to fight food insecurity in Missouri. Now, Score Against Hunger is our most substantial annual fundraising effort. The campaign is ongoing, and we need your help to make it a success. Visit our website at scoreagainsthunger.org to donate to Score Against Hunger.



You can join us at our Score Against Hunger Game on Sept. 7 to cheer for the Tigers as they take on West Virginia. We will also hold Taste of the Tigers on Aug. 29, a tailgate-inspired event where people can enjoy food and brews from around Mid-Missouri.

The Food Party That Lasts All Summer

OUR SUMMER FOOD PARTY TO HELP KIDS STAY FED

No school, warm weather and goofing around with friends — summer break is the best time to be a kid. At least, it is if you're not running on an empty stomach.

When classes end, children who are food insecure lose their only reliable access to daily nutrition. That turns what is supposed to be a fun-filled break into a stressful few months of hunger. The Food Bank offers the Summer Feeding Program in Columbia, Jefferson City and Kirksville to provide children with access to food between the end and start of classes. This year,

we are changing the program in Columbia to a mobile restaurant to reduce stigma around free lunches and to help kids have fun.

Every weekday from July 1 to August 9 (excluding July 4-5), our Summer Food Party will be traveling to four locations around Columbia. It will

provide free, healthy lunches to children, who will order customizable burritos, rice bowls, salads and fruit smoothies. At each site, kids will be able to engage in activities, such as a bean-bag toss or flying a kite.

Our Summer Food Party is made possible through The Food Bank's partnership with Food Party Como, No Kid Hungry and the Social Innovation Lab. By making the Summer Feeding Program fun and exciting, we hope to draw families and feed more kids who need nutrition.



Our

**Summer
Food Party**

Maximize Your Donation To Help Feed Children

BUDDY PACK MATCH CAMPAIGN TO KICK OFF AUGUST 2



During the school year, The Food Bank gives students in need a package of food, called a Buddy Pack, every week so they can stay fed over the weekend. It is our most expensive program — costing over \$1.3 million a year with 7,500 children participating from over 150 schools. We are unique among food banks in that we offer the packs completely free.

Funds are always needed to keep the program going, and **from August 2-9, you can maximize the effect of your donation through the Buddy Pack Match campaign.** In that time, **Missouri Employers Mutual will match all donations up to \$25,000.** It's a tremendous chance for The Food Bank to get the funds it needs to continue the Buddy Pack program.

A donation of \$180 will fund the cost of Buddy Packs for one student over a school year, and all gifts regardless of size help make a difference. No child should go hungry, and we need your help to make our mission possible.

"If students are hungry in class, learning is probably not their top priority," said Larry Linthacum, superintendent of the Jefferson City Public Schools. The need for Buddy Packs in his school district is real, Linthacum added, and it is likely to increase.

To donate during the campaign, visit buddypackshelp.com between August 2-9.

Running To Support Heroes

HOPE FOR HEROES 5K SUCCESSFUL IN ITS SECOND YEAR



On June 15, we ran and walked to support Veterans. It was the early morning, and dark clouds threatened rain. Still, people came from throughout our service area equipped with running shoes and clothes colored red, white and blue to participate in the Hope for Heroes 5K presented by Columbia Insurance Group.

It was a grand success for the second year of the event, with 180 people signed up to run or walk at Cosmo Park in Columbia or virtually at their own time and place.

In all, the race raised over \$48,000 to support The Food Bank's VIP Veteran Pack program.

VIP Veteran Packs contain food and other supplies to help Veterans in need. The Food Bank distributed

200 boxes a month throughout five counties in 2018, and recently added two more counties to the program.

To qualify, a person only needs to show proof of military service and express need.

Around 5,000 Veterans in our service area have an annual income at or below the poverty line. Veterans can utilize of our other services, such as mobile pantries or food distributed by partner agencies, as well as receive a VIP Pack. But, we want to help them as much as possible. **The Hope for Heroes 5K is part of the effort to expand our services to them. Thank you to all who joined us to run, walk or volunteer.**

