



OFF THE SHELF

WINTER 2011 NEWSLETTER & ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE ROAD FOR TOWN HALL HUNGER MEETINGS

Central Illinois Foodbank staff are often heard saying “the face of hunger is always changing” and while that certainly is true, lately they’ve been repeating the mantra: “the way we fight hunger is changing”. While Central Illinois Foodbank is making internal adjustments to accommodate for changes in food banking, these changes alone are not enough. During times when more and more families are turning to food pantries for help, hunger relief organizations are working harder than ever to provide for their communities.

It’s imperative to the success of local hunger relief that agencies directly feeding the community are prepared for and open to emerging food sources with a changing product mix. For that reason, Central Illinois Foodbank has made it a priority to travel to each one of the counties in their service region and hold *Town Hall Hunger Meetings* to discuss the changes, challenges, and successes agencies are experiencing on the front lines.

The *Town Hall Hunger Meetings* are being conducted by Central Illinois Foodbank agency relations staff, Kristy Gilmore and Shawna Cain. A Foodbank volunteer, Sylvia Miller, has also been traveling along to help moderate the meetings.

In each county, an agency agrees to host the meeting and area agencies send representatives to attend. These open format meetings have inspired agency collaboration and dialogue. Topics of discussion include the increase in produce readily available throughout the year, new and preferred methods of communication between the Foodbank and agencies, and the advantages of operating a full choice pantry.

“Feedback from last year’s Agency Conference indicated that agencies want to network with each other to become more informed and resourceful. While the main purpose of the county-wide *Town Hall Hunger Meetings* is to relay important information about changes happening at the Foodbank, they also serve to initiate regular regional meetings and encourage collaboration. We are pleased to learn that some counties have already been meeting together. Others found the meeting rewarding and plan to continue meeting independently on a regular basis to work together in the battle against hunger,” said Shawna Cain.

At this point, Central Illinois Foodbank has held *Town Hall Hunger Meetings* in 16 of their 21 counties. Kristy Gilmore has an aggressive goal to hold the meeting in each county by the end of February.



Pictured (from left to right): Sylvia Miller, Kristy Gilmore, Shawna Cain

2000 East Moffat Avenue • Springfield, IL 62702

Phone: 217.522.4022 • Fax: 217.522.6418

centralilfoodbank.org





STAFF

Pam Molitoris

Executive Director

pmolitoris@centralilfoodbank.org

Tom Killam

Assistant Director

tkillam@centralilfoodbank.org

Kristy Gilmore

Manager of Food & Agency Resources

kgilmore@centralilfoodbank.org

John Bannon

Communications Manager

jbannon@centralilfoodbank.org

Shawna Cain

Agency Relations & Program Assistant

scain@centralilfoodbank.org

Laura Boyd

Operations Assistant

foodlist@centralilfoodbank.org

Beth Vincent

Systems Assistant

volunteer2@centralilfoodbank.org

Gloria Shanahan

Public Outreach Coordinator

gshanahan@centralilfoodbank.org

Anna McMakin

Executive Assistant

amcmakin@centralilfoodbank.org

Bill Nickell

Warehouse Manager

bnickell@centralilfoodbank.org

Warehouse Staff

Darren Farley

Dale Guthery

Mark Myers

Phillip Walker

DIRECTOR'S DISH

by Pam Molitoris

At the end of each year, after all of the holidays and hustle, I pause and think about the successes and challenges of the past year. 2010 was a big year for us at the Foodbank. Not only did we distribute 40% more food than last year, we received the exciting news that Central Illinois Foodbank was given a 4 star rating by Charity Navigator. In short, Charity Navigator is a not for profit charity watch group that evaluates organization's financial responsibility and program growth. The coveted 4 star rating is the highest a charity may receive, and is no small feat. For me, this achievement symbolizes years of hard work at the Foodbank to improve our efficiencies and best serve our mission. It is a top priority and our obligation to be responsible with the generous support we receive from donors like you. Thank you for choosing us as a non-profit with a mission worthy of your support.

While you may know Central Illinois Foodbank has grown a great deal in the past few years, many may not realize exactly how much. The Foodbank first opened its doors in 1982 after being formed by a coalition of churches and not for profit organizations seeking a better way to acquire and distribute donated food. In that first year, the Foodbank managed to distribute around 65,000 pounds of food each month. Today, we are averaging about 750,000 pounds of food per

month. In recent years, it's clear that the need for food assistance has risen. Luckily, so too has the public support to feed our neediest neighbors.

Without the generous support of individuals and businesses - donors, volunteers, and advocates alike, we wouldn't be able to feed the hungry. I often think of our volunteer truck drivers, who show up early each and every week to help us collect retail store donations, even in the coldest weather. I think of youth food drives, which teach our children at a young age the importance of helping others. I think of our long-time donors, who contribute whatever they can afford each year, so that others may have access to the most basic of needs. I think of you, championing our cause, helping create a better tomorrow for the 105,600 individuals we've fed this year.

Together, we fight hunger in our neighborhoods and throughout Central Illinois. Together we can change lives.

Thank you,

Pam Molitoris

Pam Molitoris



THE 2011 FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE

Maximize your donation!

During March and April every year, the Feinstein Foundation donates \$1 million dollars to domestic hunger-relief organizations across the nation. Central Illinois Foodbank regularly reports our fundraising during these months and we receive a percentage of the \$1 million in proportion to the fundraising nation-wide. You can make your gift go even further when you give during March and April!



The 12th Annual Harvest Ball raised an impressive \$70,000 for Central Illinois Foodbank. The evening featured live entertainment from Jane Hartman and the Springfield High School Jazz Band, hunger-fighting artwork from Springfield area students, and the debut of an informational video produced for the Foodbank by Leadership Springfield. The Foodbank awarded Dominion Kincaid Power Station with the 2010 Good Samaritan Award for their continued dedication to fight hunger in Central Illinois.

Presenting Sponsor
Dominion Kincaid Power Station

Bistro Sponsors
Memorial Medical Center
Dr. Thom & Gloria Shanahan
Mr. William & Nancy Simpson

Cafe Sponsors
Dr. Wilfred & Esther Lam
Mr. Ed & Sharon Curtis
US Bank

Al Fresco Sponsors
Eck, Schafer & Punke, LLP
Hanson Professional Services
Hurwitz Enterprises
Illinois National Bank
Drs. Nasar & Kanna Nallamothu
Dr. Marc & Teressa Shelton
Drs. Norman & Susan Soler
Orthopedic Center of Illinois
SIU Surgery
St. John's Hospital
Sysco Central Illinois
Tom Lange Company

MEET SARAH



The sky is dark on a cool evening, and Sarah sips a hot cup of tea – her respite after a long day's work. A year ago, this mother of three started her own after school day-care. With its growing client base, Sarah now spends five days a week caring for the children of other working families. She's quite chipper, considering she also works part-time at a supermarket. She's still full of smiles, even as she recalls the afternoon her husband, David, arrived home from work with the news that he had been laid-off.

"Have I always been positive?" Sarah asks. "No. There've been some pretty dark times, especially in the months following David's job loss." David's job was the sole source of income and provided medical insurance for the family of five. Sarah recalls that though money had always been a little tight, they still managed to pay their bills, provide food for their children, and live a very happy life. "When we had our second child, we decided it would be best [financially] for me to stay at home to care for them. We cut coupons and lived within our means, like everyone else," she explains.

A few short months after the lay-off, Sarah and David's savings account was nearly empty. David began working odd jobs whenever he could find them, but did not find steady work. With bills piling up and only \$246 in their account, Sarah made her way to a food pantry at a local church. The food pantry, through the help of Central Illinois Foodbank, was able to provide food for Sarah and her family as they recuperated. "I knew that at the very least, I had to feed my family," Sarah says. The pantry also provided information about programs where Sarah could learn about re-entering the work force and David could learn new career skills.

**"I knew that at the very least,
I had to feed my family."**

Even after her husband found work again, Sarah always knew she could turn to the local food pantry during the "tight times". David's new job had him working on commission, and there wasn't much of a guarantee of how much money he would make each month. "It has been hard. There have been times I've looked at my check book and cried." In order to make up for the decrease in her family's income, Sarah found a job working at a supermarket while her children were at school and eventually started a home day-care business as well.

Despite the past hardships, Sarah is quite optimistic about the future. She looks to her children and husband for inspiration, using them as a reminder of all the wonderful things she had to fight for in her life. "Every year that you go through, even though there were challenges along the way, the pain that once was lessens. And you just have to learn to fill in those deep wounds with better thoughts and the fact that life can be better than it was."

HOW DOES CENTRAL ILLINOIS FOODBANK ACQUIRE AND DISTRIBUTE FOOD?



GET INVOLVED

Looking for more ways to help Central Illinois Foodbank? Beyond donating money, there are many ways that individuals and groups can help in the fight against hunger. Volunteering and Food Drives are two great ways to get involved with the Foodbank, and learn a little more about daily operations and about local hunger issues.

VOLUNTEER

Throughout the year, the Foodbank has special opportunities that arise for volunteers. They include product labeling, mobile food pantries, and food sorting. Often these needs arise with short notice. To get on our volunteer email list, please email Shawna Cain at: scain@centralilfoodbank.org.

FOOD DRIVES

Food drives are a great way to involve groups in local hunger relief efforts. Those looking for a twist on the traditional food drive can hold a personal care items drive and collect soap, shampoo, and other hygiene items that cannot be purchased with LINK cards. Register the drive with Kristy Gilmore at: kgilmore@centralilfoodbank.org.



2010 ANNUAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended May 31st, 2010

Revenues and other support

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Program Service Fees | \$ 616,740 |
| Grants & Contracts | 464,474 |
| Contributions | 701,831 |
| Contributed Food Received | 9,557,806 |
| Interest | 8,180 |
| Other | 5,085 |
| Total Revenues and other support | \$ 11,354,116 |

Expenses

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Foodbank Operations | \$ 927,579 |
| Contributed Food Distributed | 9,465,879 |
| Administrative & Fundraising | 339,357 |
| Depreciation | 81,213 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 10,814,028 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Change in Net Assets | \$ 540,088 |
| Net Assets at Beginning of Year | 1,526,681 |
| Net Assets at End of Year | 2,066,769 |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

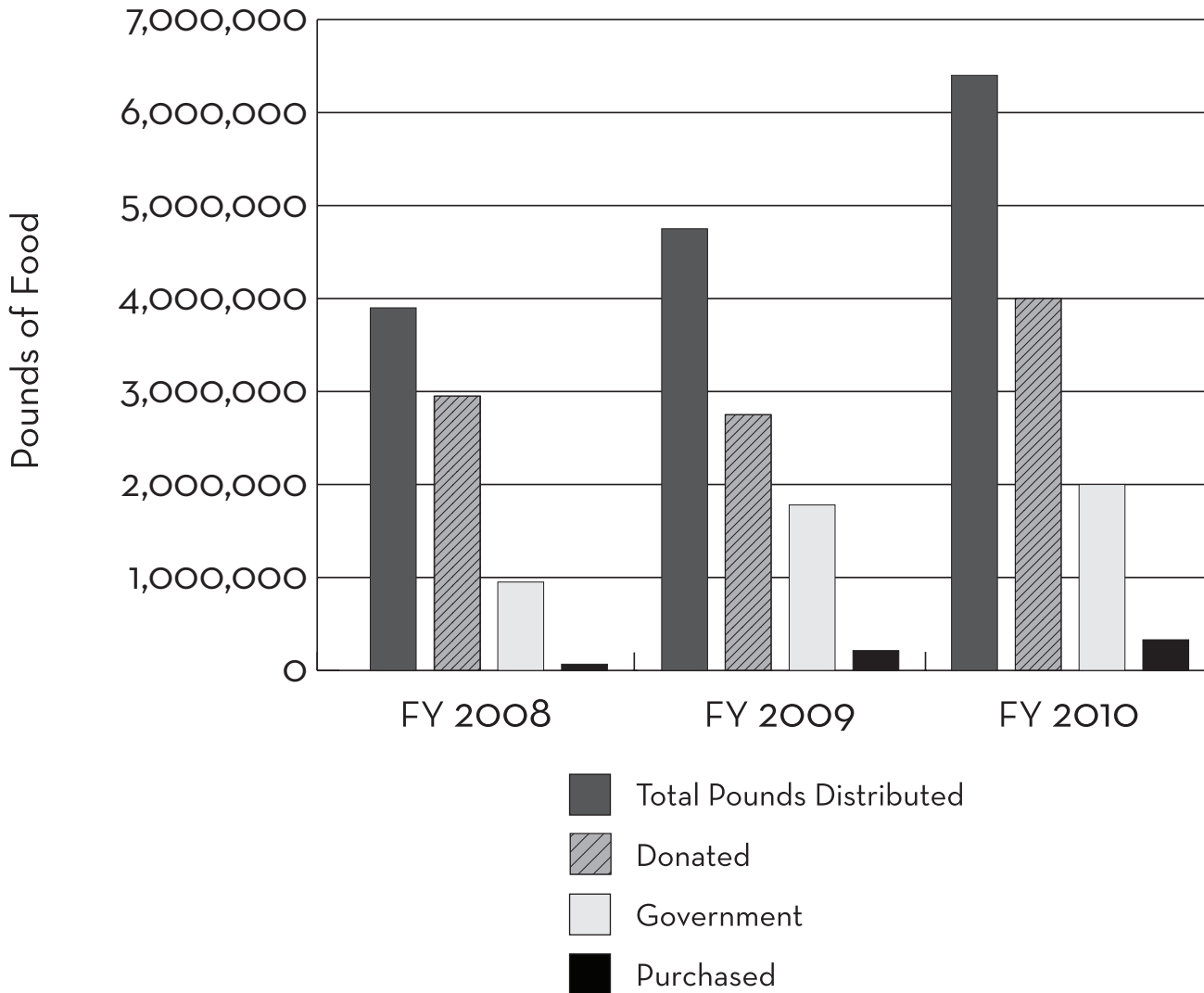
Amy Hagen, *President*
 John Farrell, *Vice-President*
 CJ Saladino, *Treasurer*
 Erica Riplinger, *Secretary*
 Rabbi Michael Datz
 Carol Dove
 Dr. Gary Dunnington
 Don Hickman
 Kathi Karr
 Esther Lam
 Marsha Prater
 Robbie Robert
 Penny Roth



97% of every dollar goes directly to feed the hungry.

3% goes to administrative and fundraising costs.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION MIX IN POUNDS



Charity Navigator recently awarded Central Illinois Foodbank a 4 star rating, the highest rating they bestow on the charities they monitor. Charity Navigator is America's premier independent charity evaluator. Charity Navigator uses an unbiased, objective, numbers-based rating system to assess the financial health of America's best known and largest charities.

OUR MISSION

To collect donated food and grocery items from growers, manufacturers, processors, wholesalers and retailers for distribution to charitable agencies serving people in need.