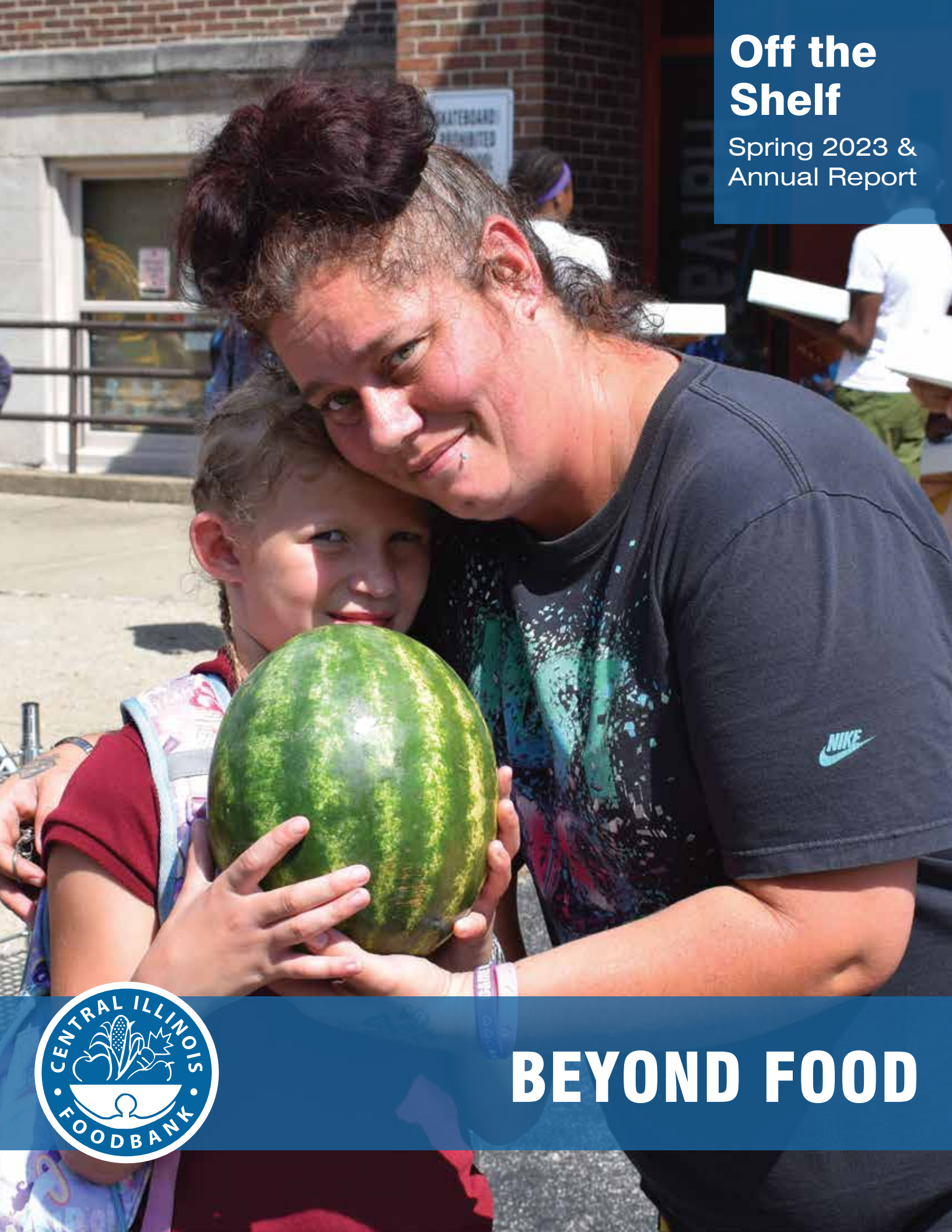


# Off the Shelf

Spring 2023 & Annual Report



## BEYOND FOOD



## DIRECTOR'S DISH



**Pam Molitoris**  
*Executive Director*

When the Foodbank started its operation, our focus was solely on rescuing food that might otherwise go into landfills. We have come a long way since then. While our current efforts include rescuing food, we also purchase food, receive food from government programs, and work with farmers and other growers to glean product from fields where it was once tilled over into the ground.

Our most recent focus has been to look at nutrition through the lens of our neighbors. We know that people have different taste preferences both individually as well as across cultures, however one thing that remains true for all is the desire to receive fresh, nutritious foods. Families often request dairy, fresh produce, and protein when they pick up food from distributions.

As we've watched the cost of food rise recently, we have been asking ourselves a couple of questions – how do we do more, and what do we do differently?

The first question has a simple answer; we buy more food. Although that is one approach, it is not the end game. The second question is a perplexing one, but also the one that fills me with hope.

For the past several years, in addition to the fresh products that we provide to partners and our neighbors, we have also been using a portable kitchen cart to educate children and their families on meal preparation and cooking. With COVID, these efforts were suspended and we moved toward sharing video demonstrations with the help of our friends at the Extension Office. As we make our plans to renew these efforts in person, we will be expanding them through the acquisition of three additional kitchen carts.

In collaboration with community partners, we are looking forward to not only providing fresh nutritious foods to our neighbors, but giving people the knowledge and tools to prepare healthy meals for themselves and their families. We hope you will join us in making our communities stronger, healthier, and more connected.

*Pam Molitoris*

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

***Central Illinois Foodbank is grateful for the continued support of a wide range of community partners which allow us to feed our neighbors, 365 days a year.***

### **Dot Foods**

Dot Foods helped the Foodbank secure products for a pair of drive-thru food distributions in Beardstown, providing boxes of healthy groceries for over 400 households in total. Dot Foods continues to be a regular food procurement partner for the Foodbank, helping to keep our warehouse stocked with a wide variety of nutritious items.

### **Arby's Foundation**

For the second year, the Foodbank received a generous grant from the Arby's Foundation which enabled us to secure over 8,000 pounds of healthy groceries for a fall drive-thru distribution in Springfield, assisting over 200 households. Previously, support from the Arby's Foundation has also gone towards supporting our Kids Café program, helping provide meals for children in our community.

### **Vitamin Angels**

2022 marked the second year of our partnership with Vitamin Angels, which helps provide nutritious foods to expectant mothers and families with children aged four and under. Through this program, parents can pick up bags of fresh produce, protein, and dairy at Central Counties Health Centers in Springfield, with the program recently expanding to Taylorville.

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Illinois and Jewish Federation of Springfield**

Both the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Illinois and the Jewish Federation of Springfield have continued to be instrumental in helping our neighbors right here in Springfield. Each organization hosted several drive-through food distributions over the past year, and they both teamed up with us to hold a drive-through food distribution at Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Illinois in October.



## FOODBANK LOOKS TO THE FUTURE WITH NUTRITION AT THE HEART OF OUR MISSION

Over the past year, the Foodbank has worked to develop and implement a formal nutrition policy for the first time in its history. The new policy will serve as a “road map” towards ensuring that the Foodbank is consistently securing the most healthful food products possible for our neighbors.

Under the policy, food ordered and inventoried at the Foodbank is organized into three “traffic light” categories: green for choose often, yellow for choose sometimes, and red for choose rarely. Work has begun on implementing this policy into the Foodbank’s daily operations, with food being ordered accordingly.

“The intention of the Foodbank’s policy is not to tell people what to eat, but rather to ensure that we are doing our due diligence as stewards of health and wellness in our communities,” explains Foodbank Program Manager Wes Ridgeway. “The Foodbank and our partners have been continuously challenging ourselves to provide the best range of healthy options available.”

For the past several years, significant work has already been underway on prioritizing fresh products, including protein, produce, and dairy, with the Foodbank setting record-high marks for fresh product in FY21. At the Foodbank’s drive-thru food distributions, a wide range of nutritional items can often be seen, such as eggs, milk, lettuce, carrots, potatoes, and even watermelons and pineapple.

While major strides have been made in prioritizing healthy options, the Foodbank’s work will continue well into the future. One of the next significant steps the Foodbank plans to take following the implementation of the new policy is community outreach and engagement.

“It’s not enough just to provide food, we also know we need to promote awareness and education in our communities as well,” Ridgeway said.

Volunteers at the Foodbank’s partner agencies have noted that while our neighbors are appreciative of the healthful food options, they may not be aware of the best ways to prepare the items when making meals.

To address this, the Foodbank recently purchased three additional kitchen carts to supplement the original one purchased by the Foodbank in 2016. These portable carts feature a convection oven, stovetop, and sink, allowing the Foodbank and its partners to go out into our communities to engage with our neighbors and share high-quality, nutritious recipes with them. The carts were purchased through support from Blue Cross Blue Shield’s Nourish grant.

The Foodbank will soon be partnering with the University of Illinois Extension as well as the SIU School of Medicine to bring the mobile kitchen carts to events around the community, with the goal of increasing awareness of east-to-make, healthy recipes.

Stacy Sattovia, SIU Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, said that up to 80 percent of chronic disease is related to lifestyle, including dietary choices. She said that continued outreach and education will be key to encouraging food choices that promote good health in our communities.

“My goal with the kitchen cart is to go out in the community where (the Foodbank) is providing fresh foods, and showing people how to use those foods,”  
**(continued on page 4)**



Staff members from the U of I Extension demonstrate the Foodbank’s mobile kitchen cart at an event in August.



The Foodbank held a roundtable discussion with representatives from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Feeding Illinois, and our partner agencies in November to discuss ongoing efforts to fight hunger and food insecurity.



Sattovia said. “Then they can taste it and know that it is something they may want to try.”

Sattovia added that she aims to utilize the cart on SIU Medicine’s campus as well in order to provide nutrition education to healthcare providers, so they can give adequate lifestyle counsel and nutrition guidance to patients and the community.

With a plan for prioritizing healthful foods and increasing community engagement in place, the Foodbank will look ahead to the future with a focus on health and nutrition at the forefront of everything we do.

## HOW WE SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS

Our fleet of four vans and four trucks delivered **millions of lbs of food across 21 counties**



Our volunteers contributed over **5,000 hours** toward packing, delivering, and distributing food



**Over 150 partner agencies** helped us in our work to distribute food to our neighbors



### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JOHN AND LAUREN HOFFMAN

Helping others runs in the family for John Hoffman and his daughter, Lauren. John and Lauren just recently joined our volunteer team, and have been helping with a number of projects including food packing, sorting, and deliveries.

John recently retired after a 30 year career with Farmers Insurance, and after Lauren left Hope Learning Academy, they looked around for opportunities where they could spend more time together and help others in the process.

“I was looking for something to keep her busy, something we could do together, and something positive,” John said. That led the two of them to the Foodbank, where they have become regular fixtures in our sort room helping us to get food out every day.

“I like meeting the different people,” Lauren said.

“She’s always been one that likes to help out. So she’s doing something good for others and meeting new people every time we come in,” John added.



Lauren and John Hoffman work to pack boxes in the Foodbank’s sort room. Since joining us, the father-daughter team have helped with food sorting, packing, and deliveries.

*Lauren Hoffman passed away shortly after this article was written. We dedicate this article to her memory and ask that you keep her family in your thoughts.*

### SPOTLIGHT ON HUNGER: JOE, OLIVIA, AND JOEY JR.

Joe recently moved to Springfield for work with his children, Olivia and Joey Jr. While waiting to start his new job, Joe heard about the Foodbank’s drive-thru food distribution at Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Illinois and stopped to pick up groceries for his family. He said he was looking forward to sharing food with Olivia and Joey. “They’re just super excited,” Joe said. “They love their pudding.”





# FY22 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended May 31, 2022

## Revenues and Other Support Revenues

Program Service Fees	\$ 1,023,792
Grants & Contracts	\$ 1,130,032
Contributions	\$ 2,838,590
Contributed Food Received	\$ 12,785,968
Interest	\$ 30,267
Other	\$ 16,616
Unrealized loss on investments	\$ 154,652
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Other Support</b>	<b>\$ 17,670,613</b>

## Expenses

Foodbank Operations	\$ 3,422,629
Contributed Food Distributed	\$ 13,241,300
Administrative & Fundraising	\$ 530,809
Depreciation	\$ 278,314
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 17,473,052</b>

Change in Net Assets without Donor Restrictions	\$ 308,486
Change in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	\$ 110,925
<b>Total Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 197,561</b>

Net Assets at Beginning of Year \$ 12,203,962

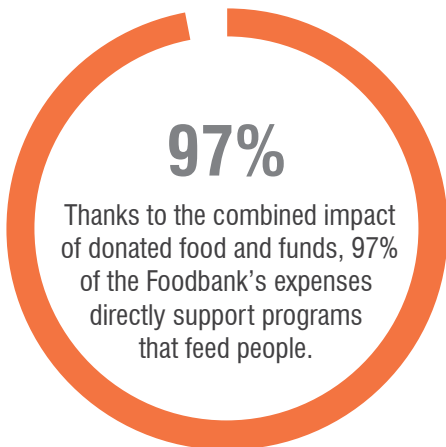
**Net Assets at End of Year** **\$ 12,401,523**



Volunteers with the Jewish Federation of Springfield work to load cars at a drive-thru distribution in October.



Representatives from the Illinois Pork Producers Association deliver a donation of nearly 10,000 pounds of ground pork to the Foodbank in December.



**\$1.00 =  
6 meals**

Every dollar you donated helped provide the equivalent of six meals.

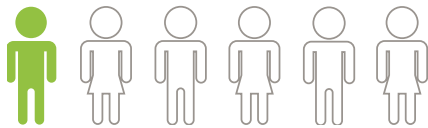
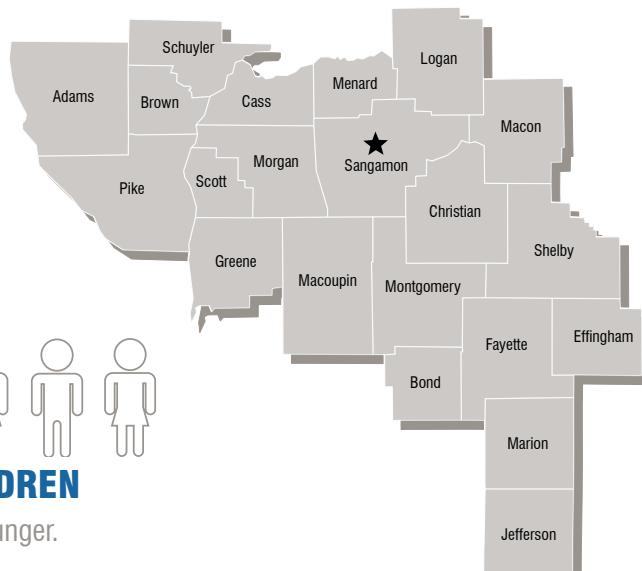
## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Robbie Robert** • President
- Marcus Lucas** • Vice President
- Jake Saladino** • Treasurer
- Christine Novaria** • Secretary

- John Faloon
- Erin Bromley
- Darren Epperson
- Sarah Enlow
- Terra Curtis-Trumbo
- Christine Salzeider
- Matthew Trapp
- Kathleen Wright



## IN OUR 21 COUNTY SERVICE AREA



**1 IN 6 CHILDREN**

struggles with hunger.

**NEARLY 100,000 PEOPLE**

don't know where their next meal will come from.

## LAST YEAR WE DISTRIBUTED



**9.3 million lbs**  
of food

INCLUDING



**2.25 million lbs**  
of fresh protein, produce  
and dairy

PROVIDING



**7.8 million meals**  
across 21 counties

## TO HELP OTHERS FIND FOOD



Visit the **Food Locator** at  
[centralilfoodbank.org](http://centralilfoodbank.org)



Text **FINDFOOD**  
to **855-536-6320**

Standard carrier message and data rates may apply, based on your cell phone carrier. If you would no longer like to receive messaging, please text STOP to 855-536-6320 and you will be unsubscribed immediately. For help with the system, please text HELP to 855-536-6320. You may receive up to 4 messages per month based on need of emergency messaging. Privacy Policy Link-[https://trumpia.com/main/privacypolicy\\_recipients.php](https://trumpia.com/main/privacypolicy_recipients.php)

## STAFF

- Pam Molitoris** • Executive Director
- Jane Kiel** • Finance Director
- Kevin Mackiney** • Operations Director
- Chloe Lucca** • Development Director
- Karleen Langhein** • Food Sourcing Manager
- Wes Ridgeway** • Program Manager
- Darian Johnson Potts** • Partner Resource Coordinator
- Darren Farley** • Sort Room Supervisor
- Darryll Kelly** • Lead Warehouse Worker
- Jenny Knuth** • Accounting Assistant
- Gayla Stone** • Operations Assistant
- Michelle Collins** • Administrative Assistant



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