

**2017  
REPORT**



# **Ending Hunger: Making Progress in Challenging Times**



 ILLINOIS COMMISSION  
TO END HUNGER



## By the Numbers

Hunger and food insecurity are a very real issue in every one of Illinois' 102 counties, affecting a total of more than 1.5 million residents. In Cook County alone, there are an estimated 203,570 food insecure children.<sup>1</sup>

### ILLINOIS STATISTICS

- Food insecurity:** **11.1% (556,332 households) for 2014-2016<sup>2</sup>**
- Poverty:** **13.0% (1,621,508 individuals)<sup>3</sup>**
- Child poverty:** **17.7% (511,679 children and youth age 0-17)<sup>4</sup>**
- Population living under 185% of the federal poverty level:** **27.0% (3,377,077 individuals)<sup>5</sup>**
- Disabilities:** **34% of households with an adult aged 18-64 with disability experienced food insecurity in 2015.<sup>6</sup>**
- Veterans:** **22% of pre 9/11 and 42% of post 9/11 veterans in the Chicago-land area are at risk of food insecurity.<sup>7</sup>**

### Hunger on College Campuses

- Recent studies show 25% of community college students faced very low food security, compared with 20% of students at four-year schools.<sup>8</sup>
- To help tackle food insecurity at two- and four-year institutions, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will host Presidents United to Solve Hunger at a national conference on hunger among college students March 15-17, 2018.<sup>9</sup>

## Governor Rauner, Constitutional Officers and Members of the General Assembly:

The past year was one of both important achievements and significant challenges in our shared efforts to end hunger and food insecurity in Illinois. We celebrated and built upon landmark legislative accomplishments. At the same time, we opposed serious threats to the safety net at the state and federal levels, including bedrock programs with long-established effectiveness and efficiency in alleviating food insecurity. This report provides highlights of our collective achievements during 2016-17, and recommendations to address ongoing challenges while building on our momentum.

Major accomplishments include:

- Successfully secured a waiver of the time limit on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for calendar year 2017 (see Spotlight, pages 5-7).
- More than 40,000 economically-disadvantaged students at 49 community colleges could become eligible to receive SNAP benefits under the College Hunger Bill (HB 3211) approved by the General Assembly. Governor Rauner supported the key provision extending SNAP eligibility to these students, but ultimately issued an amendatory veto to the bill, based on a second provision, which established a process to identify and notify students who may be eligible for SNAP. The outcome for this legislation is currently uncertain.
- The *Breakfast After the Bell* law was implemented with the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. The law makes breakfast part of the school day in 890 schools across the state, increasing access to the nutrition all students require each morning to learn and succeed in the classroom.
- The Child Anti-Hunger Resolution (SR 492) was adopted. This calls for Illinois legislators to encourage schools to offer *Breakfast After the Bell*; ensure that children have access to summer meals; and oppose cuts in the federal budget to food and nutrition programs.



We have come far, in our state and nation, in addressing hunger. Unfortunately, over the past year, much time and energy by anti-hunger advocates has been expended to make the case for essential programs whose results are already well-demonstrated. Cornerstones of anti-hunger efforts, such as the highly successful SNAP program, face serious threats. We do not want to return to a time—not that long ago—when many in our country suffered from severe hunger and malnutrition. We are confident that, despite serious obstacles, we will maintain our momentum on behalf of our most vulnerable citizens with the dedication and support of all those who work so tirelessly to feed the hungry. We thank each of you for supporting that effort.

Sincerely,

**Janice Glenn, Co-Chair  
Acting Director  
Illinois Department of Human Rights**

**Kate Maehr, Co-Chair  
Executive Director & CEO  
Greater Chicago Food Depository**



# The Commission to End Hunger: Working to Achieve Food Security for All Illinoisans

The Commission was created to support the nearly two million Illinois residents who may face food insecurity. The Commission to End Hunger Act, passed by the Illinois General Assembly in 2010, states: “It is the goal of the State of Illinois that no man, woman, or child should ever be faced with hunger.” This hardship is present in every county of our state and has a significant impact on the health and economic well-being of residents and communities. Although food insecurity represents a significant challenge, it can be overcome through advocacy, improved coordination of existing programs, and by engaging new partners.

The Commission is a collaboration of the state agencies and private organizations that requires no direct funding from the state, and garners bipartisan support to address hunger year-round. Bringing together government entities, community partners and committed individuals, the Commission works collaboratively toward the goal of ensuring that no man, woman or child in Illinois ever experience hunger. The Governor appoints public members of the Commission, while ex-officio members are drawn from key state agencies.

The bulk of the Commission’s responsibilities are carried out through three Working Groups: Benefits Access, Emergency Food System, and No Kid Hungry.

## THE FOUR OVERARCHING GOALS OF THE COMMISSION

**Goal 1:** End hunger by improving access to quality, nutritious food among all Illinois populations.

**Goal 2:** Build needed state infrastructure and foster communication and collaboration among government programs and agencies.

**Goal 3:** Create public awareness of hunger and the solutions.

**Goal 4:** Build and expand collaborative partnerships between the public and private sectors to implement Commission goals.

# **SPOTLIGHT:** **The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

## **The Nation's Frontline Defense Against Hunger**

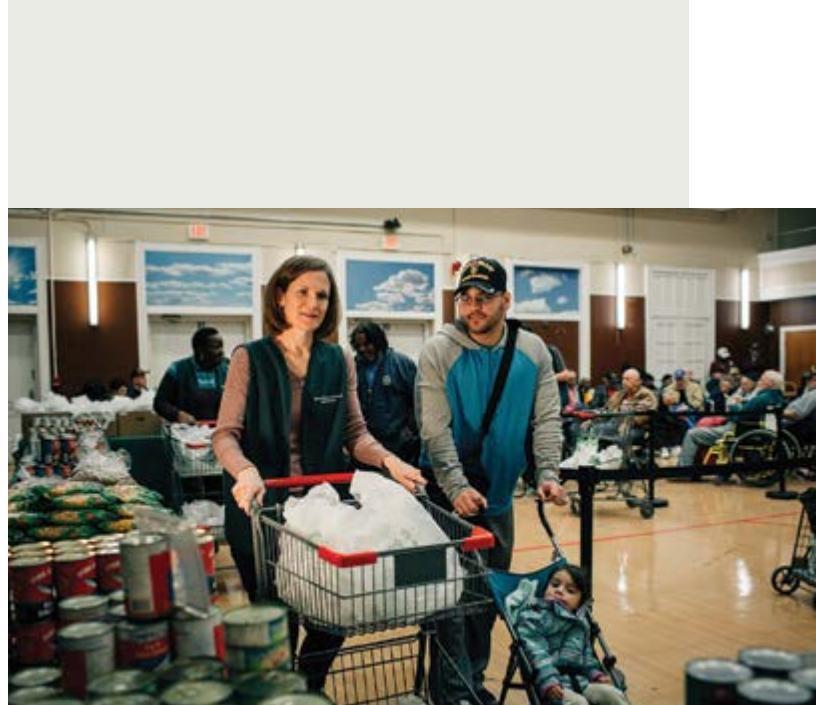
Formerly known as Food Stamps, SNAP is the nation's most important anti-hunger program, helping to put food on the table for those facing food insecurity, most of them children, older adults, and people with disabilities.<sup>10</sup> In Illinois, SNAP helps 1.9 million people—about one in seven residents—afford enough food to lead a healthy life.<sup>11</sup> According to Moody's Analytics, the program generates \$1.22 in economic activity for every \$1 spent in benefits.<sup>12</sup>

And yet, SNAP, the foundation of the federal food safety net, faces severe cuts in the U.S. House of Representatives FY18 Budget Resolution. By recommending additional work requirements and block-granting SNAP funding to the states, SNAP funding would be cut by \$163 billion over the next decade. Food banks and pantries would be unable to make up for an estimated \$5 billion<sup>13</sup> cut in federal support to our state. The eight food banks that serve Illinois distribute enough food for approximately 200 million meals each year, while SNAP benefits in Illinois can provide 1.3 billion meals per year.

**“Instead of criticizing SNAP, let’s praise it for saving millions of Americans from food insecurity.”<sup>14</sup>**

—Craig Gundersen

Professor of agricultural and consumer economics,  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and  
lead researcher of Feeding America’s annual  
*Map the Meal Gap* study



### **Who relies on SNAP? The answers may come as a surprise.**

Most have held jobs and many are coping with highly stressful family situations or personal tragedies. Real-life examples of Illinois residents who depend upon SNAP for nourishing meals:

#### **When one paycheck isn’t enough**

Rafael Rosario won two Purple Heart medals for combat wounds during his service in the U.S. Army in Afghanistan. On active duty until 2013, Rafael’s combat injuries have since prevented him from working. His wife, also a veteran, is employed, but money is tight with only one paycheck for their family. SNAP benefits help to ensure that their young daughter, Caridad, has a nutritious diet. Rafael says of SNAP benefits: “They help us afford the best food. It’s an incredible relief.”

#### **A career cut short**

Angela White worked her entire adult life at a Schaumburg typesetting company. But a few years ago at age 63, she was diagnosed with hyperthyroidism. “I could barely hold a job because of the health issues that came with my condition,” she says. For the first time in her life, Angela did not have a steady paycheck. She applied for SNAP benefits and receives \$180 per

*(continued on page 6)*

## **Who relies on SNAP? (continued from page 5)**

month. "If I didn't have the money from SNAP, there would barely be anything to eat in my house," she says. "I am healthier because of the food I get from SNAP." Indeed, many studies have demonstrated that a variety of serious health issues are linked to chronic hunger and food insecurity.<sup>15</sup>



## **A veteran in need**

As a Marine lance corporal, James Poggi sustained a serious injury in Afghanistan in 2010 and had his left foot surgically amputated to aid his recovery. Like more than 40,000 other Illinois veterans, James now lives below the poverty line, defined by the federal government as \$24,600 for a family of four in 2017. But the \$372 per month he, his wife Stefanie and their two children receive from SNAP is a lifeline, helping them buy groceries. Along with other programs such as Veterans Administration and Social Security benefits, SNAP is vital to helping James and Stefanie take care of their family while James focuses on recovery and regular physical therapy.

## **SPOTLIGHT: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program**

(continued from page 5)

## **SNAP time limits would hurt those who need help the most**

The SNAP time limit waiver protects access to SNAP benefits by waiving a requirement that people aged 18-49 (referred to as ABAWDs—able bodied adults without dependents) work at least 20 hours a week; otherwise they only get SNAP benefits for three months in a 3-year period. This requirement is a significant threat to more than 260,000 Illinoisans living in areas where there simply are not enough jobs or job training opportunities, as well as people who experience significant barriers to employment. Illinois could lose more than \$410 million in federal benefits annually if the time limit is implemented.

Illinois' current waiver expires at the end of 2017, and the entire state, except for DuPage County, will qualify for a waiver of the time limit this year. We strongly urge Governor Rauner to request this waiver for 2018, as he did last year. Since SNAP is 100% federally funded and provides economic stimulus for the state, applying for the waiver is both a compassionate and smart choice for Illinois.

The proposed federal budget also imposes additional time limits and work requirements on SNAP recipients. While this is framed as an incentive for the unemployed to return to work, such rules would effectively remove benefits from individuals struggling with poverty, hardship, and hunger—without regard for the availability of jobs in their communities, or work that matches their skills. The vast majority of those affected face significant barriers to employment, such as mental or physical limitations, low levels of education, chronic homelessness, criminal convictions, a lack of transportation and the need for support services.



### **ILLINOISANS AFFECTED BY THE SNAP TIME LIMIT:<sup>16</sup>**

- Do not qualify for other benefits, such as cash assistance;
- The majority (64%) have only a high school degree or less;
- 1 in 5 lack health insurance coverage;
- 18% have a disability;
- 11% reported they (or someone in their household) experienced domestic violence in the last year.





## FEDERAL NUTRITION PROGRAMS—STATEWIDE UTILIZATION DATA<sup>17</sup>

	Participation FY15 (individuals)	Participation FY16 (individuals)	Percent change in participation FY15 to FY16	Latest month available, May 2017
<b>SNAP</b>	2,042,306	1,914,393	-6.3%	1,902,285
<b>WIC</b>	247,594	225,159	-9.1%	209,918
<b>NSLP</b>	1,108,555	1,084,025	-2.2%	1,028,609
<b>NSBP</b>	423,306	431,273	1.2%	417,357
<b>SFSP</b>	70,835	57,945	-18.2%	n/a
<b>CACFP</b>	141,449	142,879	1.0%	n/a
<b>CSFP</b>	16,281	16,020	-1.6%	n/a

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

In FY16, an average of 996,092 Illinois households participated in the SNAP program each month, compared to 1,060,589 households in FY15.

### SNAP for Women, Infants and Children (WIC):

In FY16, participation is down from FY15.

### Key Child Nutrition Programs:<sup>18</sup>

#### National School Lunch (NSLP):

In FY16, 182,088,538 lunches were served: a 1.5% decrease in lunches served from FY15.

#### National School Breakfast (NSBP):

In FY16, 74,469,721 breakfasts were served: a 1.7% increase in breakfasts served from FY15.

#### Summer Food Service Program (SFSP):

In FY16, 3,961,711 SFSP meals were served: a 22.3% decrease in summer meals served from FY15.

### Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP):

Provides funding to help offset the cost of providing healthy meals to infants, children, teens, and adults in a variety of care settings.

### Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP):

Works to improve the health of low-income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA food.

# BENEFITS ACCESS WORKING GROUP

## Protecting Gains, Promoting Change

### Co-chairs:

**Dan Lesser, Sargent Shriver  
National Center on Poverty Law;  
Kathy Chan, Cook County Health  
and Hospitals System**

The Benefits Access Working Group's mission is to advocate for policies and practices that increase access to publicly-funded food and nutrition benefits. The Group's priorities are to identify and advance strategies to improve access to government nutrition programs for adults in Illinois and maximize the benefits obtained through such programs. These programs include SNAP, the Older Americans Act meal programs, and WIC.

### Progress

- Secured the SNAP time limit waiver for 2017 through Governor Rauner's action in October 2016, saving 260,000 people from losing benefits;
- Won the legislature's approval for HB 3211, the College Hunger Bill to help more than 40,000 community college students enrolled in vocational programs such as health sciences, information technology, and manufacturing;
- Supported the development of a healthcare provider toolkit to help identify and provide interventions for food insecure patients. The toolkit, intended to be updated as new insights arise, also explains: why hospitals should screen patients; how they can implement screenings into patient intake; and highlights existing initiatives throughout the state.

### Plans and Recommendations

- Protect access to SNAP and federal nutrition programs at the federal and state level—including urging Congress to pass a Farm Bill to strengthen vital anti-hunger programs, and advocating for the Governor to apply for a 2018 SNAP time limit waiver.
- Increase WIC enrollment and retention—particularly once children are older.
- Implement legislation to increase access to benefits for victims of human trafficking.
- Explore opportunities to leverage additional funding to reduce food insecurity among older Americans.<sup>19</sup>
- Continue work on improving access to SNAP for college students at risk of hunger.



### Higher food insecurity among adults with disabilities



New research by the Greater Chicago Food Depository points to a significant and disturbing gap in food insecurity among adults with disabilities. In Illinois, 34% of households with an adult member aged 18-64 with a disability experienced food

insecurity in 2015, compared with 9% of households with an adult with no disabilities.<sup>20</sup> In Cook County alone, more than 12% of the current adult population has a disability, a figure that is expected to rise in the coming years as the population ages. While food insecurity exists in every community in Cook County across the general population, the threat of hunger is particularly great among households with an adult member with a disability.



## NO KID HUNGRY WORKING GROUP

# To Survive and Thrive, Kids Need Nutrition Year-Round

**Chair: Tom Browning,  
Illinois Action for Children**

The No Kid Hungry Working Group supports strategies that alleviate child hunger year-round through school- and community-based programs. Advocating supportive policies and reaching out to families in need, the group seeks to expand the number of Illinois children participating in NSBP, SFSP, and CACFP.

### Progress

- Supported implementation of *Breakfast After the Bell* programs in schools:
- Developed comprehensive toolkit<sup>21</sup> to get schools ready to implement.

—Rise and Shine Illinois distributed more grant funds than ever before—\$138,795 to 16 school districts and 42 schools.

- Won approval of SR 492 Childhood Hunger Resolution (see page three).
- Worked to increase participation in Summer Meals Program—ambassadors from the non-profit organization Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI) knocked on 10,395 doors in the summer of 2017, compared with 8,077 in 2016. Rise and Shine Illinois issued \$60,000 in grants to summer meals sponsors.

### Plans and Recommendations

- Continue targeted work with schools to implement *Breakfast After the Bell*, providing grants, making peer-to-peer connections and offering technical assistance.
- Increase the number of afterschool and summer meal sites/sponsors.
- Raise awareness on the importance of afterschool and summer meals.

## ***Breakfast After the Bell Gets Top Grades***

Full implementation of *Breakfast After the Bell* is a highlight of recent anti-hunger achievements in Illinois.

School breakfast was the answer Lake County Illinois' Beach Park School District 3 was looking for to improve students' test scores and attention in class. "Behavior issues come from being hungry and children not being able to verbalize it," notes Patrick Palbicke, Director of Business for the District. Since implementing *Breakfast After the Bell*, nurse visits and tardiness have decreased.



*Breakfast After the Bell* programs run seamlessly in Beach Park's five elementary and middle schools. "To get the best buy-in we made the staff part of it," said Palbicke. District-wide breakfast is free to staff as long as they eat with the students.

Teachers and teacher assistants ask each child if they would like breakfast the next morning. The next morning, breakfast is delivered and eaten in the classrooms while teachers take attendance and/or review an extension of what has already been learned.

"Parents aren't always able to prepare breakfast in the mornings," says Newport Elementary Principal Shaton Wolverton. With breakfast in the classrooms, "I know that kids are eating breakfast and are ready for learning and parents know their kids are being taken care of."

***Making Progress in Challenging Times***



## ***Making Sure Summer Doesn't Equal Hunger for Thousands of Children***

The Northern Illinois Food Bank provides SFSP meals, through creative partnerships, to sites such as Mundelein's Gordon Ray Park.<sup>22</sup> A new gazebo at Gordon Ray Park was donated to the Mundelein Park and Recreation District so local volunteers of Mundelein LUNCH (for Local United Network to Combat Hunger) could have someplace to serve free summer meals to kids. "Without the lunches that we give out in the summer, some of the children might not have a nutritious meal each day," said Susan Zentz, Mundelein LUNCH coordinator.





## EMERGENCY FOOD SYSTEM WORKING GROUP

# Innovative Solutions to Putting Food on the Table

**Chair: Michael Miller,  
River Bend Foodbank**

The Emergency Food System Working Group explores and supports public and private practices and partnerships that enhance and advance food security. The goal is to increase the available supply, ensuring that everyone in Illinois has access to nutritious food at all times.

### Progress

- Expanded efforts to link Illinois farmers with efforts to alleviate food insecurity through the Illinois Department of Agriculture;

- Worked with the Illinois Specialty Growers Association to encourage donations and affordable access to specialty crops, which include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, and dried fruits;<sup>23</sup>
- Explored the potential benefits of collaborative food purchasing among the eight Feeding America food banks that serve Illinois;
- Continued to promote the Venison Donation Program, a partnership between the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Sportsmen Against Hunger, for donations of hunters' excess meat to food banks and charities.

### Plans and Recommendations

- Expand the partnership with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
- Implement an Ag Surplus pilot with the Illinois Specialty Crops Association.
- Expand promotion of the Venison Donation Program with statewide branding.

# Conclusion

Every day across Illinois, countless government employees, food bank staffs, volunteers from charities, faith organizations, businesses, elected leaders, and many more, step up to feed our neighbors. To all of you, we take this opportunity to extend our sincere and abiding thanks. Food insecurity can seem like an intractable problem when hunger remains a daily reality for more Illinoisans than the entire population of many states. But together, we have made much progress.



Every time we provide a meal to a child, a senior, a person with disabilities, or a veteran who has fallen upon hard times, we have made a tangible difference in someone's life.

We will continue to advocate for sustaining and strengthening vital government programs, and to improve services in every Illinois county. In 2017-18,

the Hunger Commission and its three Working Groups will continue to support policies and programs at both the state and federal levels to reduce the burden of food insecurity on families.

For more information, visit [www.endhunger.illinois.gov](http://www.endhunger.illinois.gov).



**Making Progress in Challenging Times**



## Ending hunger by creating pathways to food service careers

Chicago's Community Kitchen (CCK) at the Greater Chicago Food Depository is a 14-week program that gives students hands-on food preparation experience.<sup>24</sup> Students in the program spend 12 weeks training and two weeks in an internship in a professional kitchen. CCK is free and serves as an entry into the food services industry, with an impressive 90% job placement rate. Karmela Galicia, CCK director, says the program gives students a second chance: "The feedback is really powerful. A graduation speaker several years ago said before completing this program, the only thing he had ever completed was a prison sentence."

## Mobilizing food to rural areas

After their only partner agency operating in Calhoun County shut its doors due to funding shortfalls, the St. Louis Area Foodbank established an innovative mobile food distribution program. With 26,180 pounds of food delivered since its inception in July, and the help of dedicated local community volunteers, the monthly mobile distributions have been a far-reaching success—serving more than 90 families per month.



# Members and Working Group Members

## APPOINTED COMMISSIONERS

**Patricia Bellock**, State Representative  
**Brian Colgan**, Office of the Illinois Lieutenant Governor  
**Elizabeth Diaz-Castillo**, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services  
**Leann Dolan**, Illinois Department on Aging  
**John Cheney Egan**, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services  
**Janice Glenn**, Illinois Department of Human Rights  
**Esperanza Gonzalez**, Illinois Migrant Council  
**Angel Gutierrez**, Catholic Charities  
**Mark Haller**, Illinois State Board of Education  
**Grant Hammer**, Illinois Department of Agriculture  
**Don Harmon**, State Senate  
**Elizabeth Hernandez**, State Representative  
**Michael Holmes**, African American Family Commission  
**Diane Grigsby Jackson**, Illinois Department of Human Services  
**Ahlam Jbara**, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights  
**Jay Johnson**, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
**Barbara Karacic**, Community member  
**Karen Lehman**, Fresh Taste  
**Dan Lesser**, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
**Kate Maehr**, Greater Chicago Food Depository  
**Michael Miller**, River Bend Foodbank  
**Diana Rauner**, Ounce of Prevention Fund  
**Sue Rezin**, State Senate  
**Amy Rynell**, Social Impact Research Center, Heartland Alliance  
**Layla Suleiman-Gonzalez**, Illinois Latino Family Commission  
**Mary Ellen Warren**, Illinois Hunger Coalition

**Lynda Williams**, Teach for America

**Julie Yurko**, Northern Illinois Food Bank

## BENEFITS ACCESS WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

**Sherie Arriazola**, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities  
**Hollie Baker-Lutz**, Northern Illinois Food Bank  
**Graham Bowman**, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless  
**Laura Brookes**, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities  
**Kathy Chan**, Cook County Health and Hospitals System  
**Caroline Chapman**, Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago  
**Leslie Cully**, Illinois Department of Human Services  
**Leann Dolan**, Illinois Department on Aging  
**Kimberly Drew**, Heartland Alliance  
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**Ahlem Jbara**, Illinois Coalition for Immigrants and Refugee Rights  
**Dan Lesser**, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
**Carmenza Millan**, AARP  
**Nancy Nelson**, AARP  
**Javette Orgain**, At-Large  
**Aimee Ramirez**, Greater Chicago Food Depository  
**Angelia Smith**, Ford Heights Community Center  
**Elisabeth Steimel**, Age Options  
**Maribeth Stein**, Age Options  
**Alison Stevens**, Illinois Hunger Coalition  
**Barry Taylor**, Equip for Equality  
**Mary Ellen Warren**, Illinois Hunger Coalition

## NO KID HUNGRY WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

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**Hollie Baker-Lutz**, Northern Illinois Food Bank  
**Robin Brown**, Midwest Dairy Council  
**Tom Browning**, Illinois Action for Children  
**Diane Doherty**, Illinois Hunger Coalition  
**Jonathan Doster**, The Ounce of Prevention Fund  
**Daylan Dufelmeier**, UIC Chicago Partnership for Health Promotion  
**Jill Edelblute**, YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago  
**John Cheney Egan**, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services  
**Vista Fletcher**, USDA Food and Nutrition Service  
**Amy Funk**, University of Illinois Extension  
**Mark Haller**, Illinois State Board of Education  
**Maged Hanafi**, USDA Food and Nutrition Service  
**Lilah Handler**, EverThrive Illinois  
**Alicia Huguelet**, Greater Chicago Food Depository  
**Jenny Hansen**, United Way of Metropolitan Chicago  
**Merdis Hudson**, USDA Food and Nutrition Service  
**Patricia Islas**, Community Organizing Family Issues  
**Nadeen Israel**, EverThrive Illinois  
**Lolita Lopez**, EverThrive Illinois  
**Sonianne Lozada**, Greater Chicago Food Depository  
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**Amanda Kritt**, Illinois Hunger Coalition  
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**Angela Odoms-Young**, UIC Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition  
**Teresa Schryver**, Northern Illinois Food Bank  
**Lupe Villanueva**, Catholic Charities  
**Jessica Willis**, Northern Illinois Food Bank



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**Matt Coatar**, Feeding Illinois  
**Steve Ericson**, Northern Illinois Food Bank  
**Grant Hammer**, Illinois Department of Agriculture  
**Jay Johnson**, Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
**Sheila Kennedy**, Top Box Foods  
**Dan Kenney**, DeKalb County Community Gardens  
**Karen Lehman**, Fresh Taste  
**Jessica Lynch**, Illinois Public Health Institute  
**Janie Maxwell**, Illinois Farmers Market Association  
**Suzy McNamara**, Top Box Foods  
**Michael Miller**, River Bend Foodbank  
**Gary Tomlin**, Knox County Produce Farms

## Endnotes

- 1 <http://map.feedingamerica.org> 2 <https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/84973/err-237.pdf?v=42979> 3, 4, 5 2016 U.S. Census American Community Survey 1-year estimates 6 [www.chicagosfoodbank.org/disabilities](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/disabilities) 7 <http://cir.usc.edu/research/research-projects/chicagoland-veterans-study> (Veterans responding sometimes true or often true to either screening question are considered at risk of food insecurity)
- 8 [http://studentsagainstthunger.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Hunger\\_On\\_Campus.pdf](http://studentsagainstthunger.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Hunger_On_Campus.pdf) 9 <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2017-06-30/ui-host-national-conference-student-hunger.html> 10 <http://povertylaw.org/clearinghouse/article/timelimit> 11 <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap> 12 <http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/GCFD-Statement-on-FY-18-White-House-Budget-FINAL-5-25-17.pdf> 13 <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/house-2017-budget-plan-would-slash-snap-by-more-than-150-billion-over-ten> 14 <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-cook-county-food-insecurity-0504-biz-20170503-story.html>
- 15 <http://www.alliancetoendhunger.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/3-Hunger-is-a-Health-Issue.pdf> 16 <http://socialimpactresearchcenter.issuelab.org/resource/data-matters-who-are-the-illinoisans-likely-to-lose-food-assistance-in-2018.html> 17 <https://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap> 18 <http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/child-nutrition-tables> 19 <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/our-research/senior-hunger-research/or-spotlight-on-senior-health-executive-summary.pdf> 20 [www.chicagosfoodbank.org/disabilities](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/disabilities)
- 21 <http://riseandshineillinois.org/playbook-breakfast-after-the-bell-2017-implementation-tool-kit/> 22 <http://www.dailyherald.com/news/20170612/how-suburban-groups-fill-hunger-gap-over-summer-vacation/> 23 [https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/USDA\\_Specialty\\_Crop\\_Definition.pdf](https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/USDA_Specialty_Crop_Definition.pdf) 24 <https://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/chicagos-community-kitchens/>

**The annual Hunger Summit, held May 16, 2017 in Springfield, drew 290 attendees from food banks and partner organizations across Illinois.**



**“It is so important to bring partners together from across the state to share ideas and best practices about how we fight hunger in our communities.”**

—Matt Coatar, Executive Director of Feeding Illinois

**“Although this is my sixth Hunger Summit, I am always intrigued by the speakers' workshops and energy. Attending these forums helps keep the motivation to keep pushing for my clients.”**

—Hunger Summit attendee

*Report prepared by  
the Greater Chicago Food Depository  
with input from partners statewide*

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**ILLINOIS COMMISSION  
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