Loaves & Fishes celebrates milestone of helping community

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Submitted by Loaves & Fishes

This year marks an incredible milestone for Loaves & Fishes Community Services as they celebrate 40 years of service. Since its founding, this organization has grown into Illinois' largest food pantry, **now serving 10,000 people across Kane, Kendall, DuPage and Will counties each week.** This is a significant increase from previous years and this growth highlights our community's need for healthy food and essential services. Loaves & Fishes is committed to providing regular access to healthy, nutritious food and CARES programs to help low-income families meet immediate needs and achieve long-term self-sufficiency. In order to provide great access to the help people need, we offer multiple ways for clients to access that help.

Our hub-and-spoke model has transformed the way we provide food to families in need. Since our Food Distribution Hub opened three years ago, client numbers have more than tripled, and our cost to serve our clients has dropped by 40%, highlighting the efficiency and effectiveness of our new approach. The Hub is now the heart of a network that includes 12 spoke locations, in addition to our flagship Naperville Market, enabling us to provide nutritious food and essential resources to more families than ever before.

The **Loaves & Fishes CARES Programs** continue to be a critical support system for struggling families, offering emergency assistance and other essential services. The demand for these programs has increased, underscoring the significance of our work and the need for continued innovation and collaboration.

A client describes first hand the emotional strain that families experience:

"I appreciate and I'm grateful for everything we receive. I wish all the good people of the world that help their struggling neighbors made it in the news. Life is life and there's always something to worry about but not having an empty stomach or worry what we'll eat today or tomorrow or all week, is a huge relief!"

— L&F Client

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LOAVES & FISHES

Here are ways you can get involved and give back:

- Donate Funds
- Donate Food
- Donate to the Loaves & Fishes Virtual Food Drive
- Donate a Car
- Volunteer
- Tell your friends and family about Loaves & Fishes
- Visit www.loaves-fishes.org to learn more

Loaves & Fishes continues to make an incredible impact on families across Kane, Kendall, DuPage, and Will counties. Together, we can work toward a future where everyone has the food and support they need to thrive. Visit Loaves & Fishes' website to learn more about ways to give, volunteer, and be a part of this mission to end hunger in Illinois. Every act of kindness brings us one step closer to a hunger-free community.

Loaves&Fishes
HOPE
Have ♥ Give Hope

Serving more than 10,000 people a week.

This holiday season, your gift will help Loaves & Fishes provide a family with **HOPE!**

loaves-fishes.org
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40th ANNIVERSARY Since 1984
Loaves&Fishes Community Services