



HUNGER CONNECTION

HungerTaskForce.org | Spring 2020

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A large poster with a brick wall background. The text "MATCH MADNESS MKE" is written in large, bold, yellow and blue letters. Below it, "TO END HUNGER" is written in smaller blue letters. At the bottom, "DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT X2" is written in large white and yellow letters, with "March 2 - 12" in yellow script below it. A yellow button in the bottom right corner says "See page 2".



MATCH MADNESS MKE TO END HUNGER

GET YOUR DONATIONS DOUBLED

FROM MARCH 2-12, ALL DONATIONS TO HUNGER TASK FORCE WILL BE MATCHED, DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR. LOCAL DONORS HAVE BUILT A MATCHING POOL OF FUNDS SO YOU CAN TAKE YOUR GIFT TO THE NEXT LEVEL AND FEED LOCAL FAMILIES FACING HUNGER THIS SPRING.

Here are three easy ways to donate by March 12:



1. Donate online at HungerTaskForce.org.



2. Send a gift in the enclosed envelope.



3. Donate in person at Hunger Task Force. Tell us you want your donation matched!

x2

All donations raised during Match Madness MKE will be doubled and will put healthy food on the table for local kids and families. For more information on how you or your company can get involved, please contact Jonathan Hansen, Director of Development, at 414.238.6476 or jonathan@HungerTaskForce.org.

This year's Match Madness MKE campaign will culminate with an all-day phone bank live on CBS 58 on Thursday, March 12.

Volunteers from Sargento, Rexnord, Erie Insurance, Black Shoe Hospitality Group, WaterStone Bank, ROC Ventures and more will be standing by from 5:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. to take your donation over the phone. Call in to get your donation doubled to help us finish the campaign strong!



Call in March 12 to get your donation doubled to help us finish the campaign strong!

>> Donate March 2-12 to double your impact for Milwaukee families at HungerTaskForce.org!

STAMP OUT HUNGER

STAMP OUT HUNGER IS THE NATION'S LARGEST SINGLE-DAY FOOD DRIVE, LED BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS.

Stamp Out Hunger takes place on Mother's Day weekend each year. Letter Carriers walk routes through neighborhoods daily and often see poverty firsthand. Stamp Out Hunger is an opportunity to help out mothers of hungry children who are struggling to provide for their families.

Look for your blue donation bag in the mail leading up to the drive. Fill it with healthy food and leave it by your mailbox on Saturday, May 9 for your letter carrier to pick up. All food will be delivered to Hunger Task Force.

What to Donate During Stamp Out Hunger

Don't just reach into the dusty realms of your cupboard...plan ahead and have some of these healthy food donations ready for your Stamp Out Hunger bag:

- Canned low-sodium vegetables
- Canned fruit in 100% juice
- Whole grains like brown rice or whole wheat pasta
- Lean protein like tuna or chicken packed in water
- Low-fat boxed milk



Gregg Sustache is a local Letter Carrier. We spent some time talking with him about his experience and why you should step up to Stamp Out Hunger.

Q: How long have you been involved in the Stamp Out Hunger food drive?

A: I have been a volunteer food drive coordinator for two local Post Offices and have been picking up food on my routes for more than 20 years!

Q: Why is Stamp Out Hunger so important?

A: Personally I think it's about human dignity. It's an easy opportunity for the public to help those who are less fortunate and give them a sense of wellbeing, hope and support!

"IMAGINE NOT KNOWING WHERE YOUR NEXT MEAL IS COMING FROM; IMAGINE BEING HUNGRY ALL THE TIME! SO I ASK YOU, MILWAUKEE—GET INVOLVED, DONATE, VOLUNTEER, SUPPORT AND HELP US STAMP OUT HUNGER! JUST LOOK FOR THE BLUE BAGS IN YOUR MAILBOX!"

- GREGG SUSTACHE

Q: What would you say to the public about this year's food drive?

A: I would like to take this opportunity to thank Wisconsin residents for all the support you've given to the Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Drive over the years.



Many of our students depend on us to provide them with breakfast. If our students are hungry, they are not ready to learn.



-FORMER ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS SERVICES, BELOIT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Taking School Breakfast to the Next Level

STUDENTS WHO START THE SCHOOL DAY ON AN EMPTY STOMACH OFTEN SPEND MORE TIME THINKING ABOUT BEING HUNGRY THAN WHAT THEY SHOULD BE LEARNING.

According to No Kid Hungry, absences can be reduced by an average of 6% simply by making sure children are guaranteed school breakfast. While many schools in Wisconsin offer breakfast, our state consistently ranks at or near the bottom of the country in the number of schools that offer breakfast to children.

To help solve the problem, Hunger Task Force, No Kid Hungry, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the School Nutrition Association of Wisconsin are collaborating to sponsor the 2nd annual Wisconsin School Breakfast Challenge, which helps school districts provide a healthy breakfast and a great start for every student.

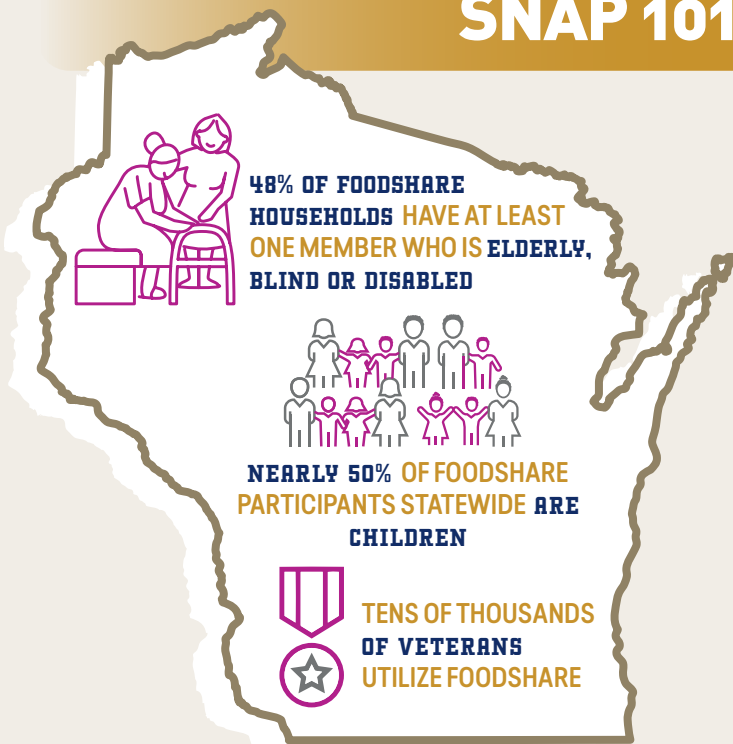
Through March 2020, hundreds of school across Wisconsin are competing to serve more breakfasts to students. While schools can win cash prizes for increasing participation, the real winners are children who can start the day ready to learn!



>> Want to learn more or take action? Contact Maureen Fitzgerald, Director of Advocacy, at maureen@HungerTaskForce.org.



SNAP 101: What is FoodShare?



The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest anti-hunger program in the United States, and the first line of defense against hunger. The program is designed to grow and shrink with the economy, so as Wisconsin's economy improves, many people no longer qualify.

Known as "FoodShare" in Wisconsin, the program supports putting food on the table for nearly 1 in 10 people in Wisconsin alone. But FoodShare is in jeopardy. In 2019, the USDA proposed three extraordinary rule changes to FoodShare that threaten to take food away from hundreds of thousands of vulnerable people in Wisconsin. The rules have not yet been implemented, but they will dramatically change how the FoodShare program works, and they will disproportionately affect Wisconsin.

Hunger Task Force is ready to help those affected by these changes and continues to fight for effective policy solutions.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS BLOCK OUT HUNGER

For the fifth consecutive year, Cousins Subs and the Milwaukee Bucks are taking the court to Block Out Hunger. This season, Cousins will donate \$50 to Hunger Task Force for every blocked shot made by the Bucks. All these blocks will add up to provide nutritious milk for local kids facing hunger. Hunger Task Force serves over 50,000 people each month, and over half are children. We're grateful for the leadership of Cousins Subs and the Bucks to keep our community healthy.



>> Get into the game by tracking the Bucks' progress at bucks.com/blockouthunger.



SINCE 2012, THE FARM HAS BEEN
POWERED BY THE GENEROSITY,
VISION AND PARTNERSHIP OF THE
HARLEY-DAVIDSON FOUNDATION

Together, we have grown and distributed more than 4.5 million pounds of fresh produce,
free of charge, for local pantries, meal sites, shelters and senior centers!

Here's what members of the network have to say about The Farm's produce:

“WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR
THE VARIETY AND THE QUALITY
OF THE PRODUCE. THE FAMILIES
THAT COME TO THE PANTRY
REALLY APPRECIATE THE FRESH
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.”

– Milwaukee Christian
Center

“WE LOVE GETTING SUCH HIGH
QUALITY PRODUCE FROM THE FARM.
THANK YOU!”

–Jewish Community
Pantry

“ALL THE PRODUCE WE’VE RECEIVED
FROM HUNGER TASK FORCE WAS
SUPER FRESH AND TASTED SO GOOD.
THANKS FOR ANOTHER GREAT
YEAR OF WONDERFUL PRODUCE.”

–The Gathering

VOLUNTEERING AT THE FARM : DIG IN FOR A GOOD CAUSE



The Farm offers a great opportunity to make a difference in our community! Every growing season, Hunger Task Force depends upon the support of community volunteers to ensure that local families have access to fresh produce. Volunteers support every aspect of the operation at The Farm in Franklin, from seed to table.

No previous farming or gardening experience is required... just a willingness to get your hands dirty for a good cause!

We need your help! Now's the time—reserve your spot to volunteer at The Farm. Sign up to dig in today!



>> Sign up to volunteer at The Farm by visiting HungerTaskForce.org.



TEAM TMP!

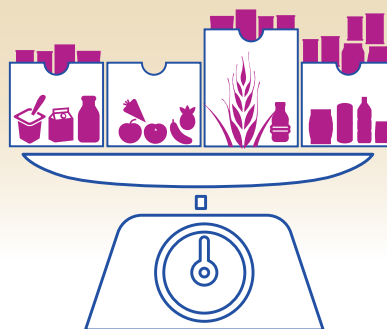
IN 2019, HUNGER TASK FORCE BEGAN DISTRIBUTING FOOD THROUGH A FEDERAL EFFORT CALLED THE TRADE MITIGATION PROGRAM (TMP).

The government procured surplus foods to lessen harm caused by trade wars to farmers and food producers, and these foods were made available to food banks across the country.

Hunger Task Force now has a team of staff to help deliver the increased volume of food throughout our network. These warriors have distributed millions of pounds of fresh fruits, milk, eggs, nonperishable items and lean meats, and continue to provide additional relief to FoodShare recipients and seniors.

Team TMP currently distributes food to more than 40 sites throughout Milwaukee County, serving anywhere between 30-140 clients at each site. Sites served include housing complexes, community centers, senior centers, transitional housing, schools and even a technical college.

IN 2019 THROUGH TMP,
HUNGER TASK FORCE
DISTRIBUTED
2,236,954 POUNDS
OF ADDITIONAL FOOD
INCLUDING FRESH FRUITS,
MILK, EGGS AND LEAN MEATS



>> Want to learn more about TMP or volunteer at distributions?
Contact Kyle Buehner at kyle.buehner@HungerTaskForce.org.



HUNGER TASK FORCE

FREE & LOCAL

201 S. Hawley Court | Milwaukee, WI 53214
Phone 414.777.0483 | Fax 414.777.0480

Hunger Task Force believes that every person has a right to adequate food obtained with dignity. We work to prevent hunger and malnutrition by providing food to people in need today and by promoting social policies to achieve a hunger free community tomorrow.

Hunger Task Force, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer and provider. We do not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, or disability, or any other category protected by law.

Thanks to Burton & Mayer who donated printing to offset the cost of creating this newsletter.

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Make a donation online:
HungerTaskForce.org

SAVE THE DATE:



SATURDAY, MAY 9

The nation's largest single-day food drive is right around the corner! Watch for those special donation bags in your mailbox in early May. Fill that bag with healthy nonperishable foods and leave it out for your local letter carrier to pick up on Saturday, May 9!

