**Hunger Connection**

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The Hunger Task Force Farm is having a highly productive growing season so far! Our fresh, locally grown vegetables have been available at Senior Stockbox sites, public curbside food service locations and outdoor distributions since the lettuce harvest started in late May. Squash, cabbage, collards, tomatoes, corn and cucumbers have been in abundance, ensuring we can fulfill our commitment to service with dignity, and we’re not done yet!

In a typical growing season, The Farm hosts more than 5,000 volunteers... the equivalent of 14 full-time employees! This year, we sadly have not been able to have volunteers at The Farm, and our Farmers have been working around the clock for a successful harvest.

WE’RE STILL Harvesting

BEANS: 19,500 pounds

SUMMER SQUASH: 21,000 pounds

APPLES: 45,000 pounds

CORN: 105,000 pounds

CURBSIDE SERVICE: OUTDOOR FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

SINCE MARCH, HUNGER TASK FORCE’S NETWORK OF PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS HAS SAFELY SERVED HUNGRY CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND SENIORS IN THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY. WITHIN THIS NETWORK, THE NO-CONTACT FOOD DISTRIBUTION METHOD OFFERS CURBSIDE SERVICE TO THOSE VISITING FOOD PANTRIES, SOUP KITCHENS AND HOMELESS SHELTERS.

Volunteer at the Farm: 2021!

Not having the help of our volunteer force has been a huge challenge and has required an extraordinary level of commitment from Farm staff. We’re looking forward to welcoming our volunteers back in 2021!

> Send an email to Aleka.Shewczyk@HungerTaskForce.org to add your name to the 2021 volunteer list.
Advocacy Work Grows During COVID-19

COVID-19 has impacted families across our state. In response to the growing demand at food pantries, Governor Evers announced a plan to both help farmers in Wisconsin and food pantries adapt to the challenges they’ve faced as a result of COVID-19. Administered by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the Food Security Network Support grant and the Food Security and Wisconsin Products grant allowed Hunger Task Force to purchase much needed supplies, trucks, coolers, fork lifts, dollies and more, and Wisconsin dairy and farm products for Hunger Relief Federation partners across the state. The Hunger Relief Federation is a coalition of more than 100 members, including representatives from 11 Wisconsin Tribal Nations. This federation helped provide much needed food and resources to families in all 72 Wisconsin counties.

Two new federal nutrition programs—Pandemic-EBT and Emergency FoodShare—proved critical for families struggling due to the pandemic. This summer, Hunger Task Force conducted outreach to over 225,000 families across Wisconsin to make sure they could access programs that would help them put food on the table for their children.

Many pantry managers have reported an increase in household size as relatives share living accommodations to save on rent and utilities, especially as eviction protections and stimulus payments expire. Pantry managers are already beginning to adjust outside distribution processes for winter, with the possibility of operating with further reduced volunteer resources and with enhanced protocols for inclement weather closures. Hunger Task Force will continue to ensure the necessary food supplies of fresh dairy and produce, frozen meats and shelf-stable goods to operate each week. We will continue to provide sites with the additional PPE they require (gloves, masks, sanitizing supplies) as well as distribution supplies (grocery bags, boxes, clamshells and sporks).

To guarantee these supplies through the fall, visit our website and donate to the COVID-19 Response Fund at www.HungerTaskForce.org.
Milwaukee’s most storied tradition of giving is going virtual

Hunger Task Force and Johnson Controls are thrilled to announce the first-ever virtual campaign!

We’ve created a full slate of new, virtual ways to safely donate and feed families during the holiday season. Though traditional food drives will look much different, the Food For Families tradition of giving and feeding the hungry remains the same.

This season, local need is as great as it’s ever been. Pantry traffic is up, and the lingering challenges of the pandemic, unemployment and colder weather are making it harder for parents and seniors to put food on the table.

Johnson Controls is leading the way and calling on each business, group and family in the community to help feed those in need this holiday season. Check out the next page for all the new and exciting ways to give and support Food For Families!

Food For Families: A History of Meeting the Need

More than 40 years ago, the first ever Food For Families campaign was launched by WISN 12 in partnership with Hunger Task Force. It was a year of economic recession with great community need. Food was collected in barrels across the community and Hunger Task Force took its first steps as a food bank to distribute the food to emergency pantries. Each year after, Food For Families grew in its traditions and partnerships to feed local families during tough times. Now, the Milwaukee community is again faced with another economic downturn and the continuing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. But Food For Families—and its partners—are once again reinventing themselves to meet the need through Virtual Food Drives in 2020.

Food For Families History Timeline

1978
Food For Families, a grassroots community project, is created by WISN 12 employees who saw the issue of hunger as one of the greatest needs in Wisconsin.

1989
Food For Families expands to start in November and run through the end of December due to growing need.

1993
As part of the Food For Families campaign, a prime time telethon was held to raise money for Hunger Task Force.

Get involved virtually this Food For Families season at www.HungerTaskForce.org.
Virtual Ways to Give During Food For Families

1. Customized Virtual Food Drive
Brand new this year, businesses and groups can create a customized Virtual Food Drive webpage. This will be your private link to share with your colleagues and friends, at your place of worship or to create an office fundraising challenge. The virtual food drive will include a full menu of healthy foods and staples. At the end of your drive, we can total up your generosity and give you a full report!

2. Food For Families and all the Fixings
Want to focus your fundraising efforts on the traditional turkey and all the fixings? This special option will allow you and your group to tally up the festive birds and side dishes to create warm holiday memories for families.

3. Cash Donations
We understand that this time of year gets really busy. One of the easiest and quickest ways to support Hunger Task Force is by making a gift online at www.HungerTaskForce.org or sending a check in the enclosed envelope. We’ll use your gift where it is needed most to purchase, deliver and provide food to hungry families.

SUPPORT FALL EVENTS: SAFE & VIRTUAL

This season, you can stay safe at home and not miss out on these signature events to support Hunger Task Force!

**October 10: Summerfest Community Day**

Summerfest and its sponsors are excited to host this drive-thru food drive for Hunger Task Force at Henry Maier Festival Park. Fans who donate three healthy, nonperishable foods will receive one ticket for Summerfest 2021, while supplies last. Don’t miss it!

**November: Rexnord Turkey Ticker Challenge**

Rexnord is back and the virtual bird is the word! All November long, Rexnord will match your online turkey donations. Never before has it been safer and easier to put a gobbler on the holiday table for a family in need.

**November 20: CBS58 Drive Thru Food Drive**

Stay warm, dry and safe in your car for this socially-distanced Thanksgiving Drive-Thru Food Drive at Miller Park! Drive thru with your food donations just in time for Thanksgiving.

**November 11-25: WISN Virtual Food For Families Campaign**

WISN 12 is continuing their storied partnership with the Food For Families campaign by hosting a virtual donation drive. The two-week campaign will feature stories of families helped by your support and matching gift opportunities!

**November 26: Turkey Trot**

The annual Turkey Trot is expanding its Thanksgiving tradition so you can race the course without the crowds or run virtually. Support Hunger Task Force on your registration form!

**November 26: Touchdowns for Hunger™**

Sargento, Aaron Jones and the Green Bay Packers are back for another season of Touchdowns for Hunger™. For every Packers touchdown, Sargento will donate $1,300 to Hunger Task Force!

>> Be sure to check www.HungerTaskForce.org for updates on these events, programs and more this fall!
Community Spotlight: Jamie

JAMIE HAS BEEN HELPING CONNECT LOCAL SENIORS WITH A STOCKBOX FOR NEARLY 8 YEARS.

During the monthly public senior Stockbox distribution at Clinton Rose Senior Center in September, Jamie was out and about, saying hello to seniors—and friends—left and right. She talks about the importance of the additional food provided to clients each month along with the Stockbox, a healthy box of shelf-stable foods for seniors who may be struggling even more due to the pandemic. Jamie is also a recipient of the Stockbox and speaks about the program from experience.

“The program is a money saver, and a family saver,” Jamie says. “Everything you’re giving out...that’s even more money they can spend at the store, more money they can apply to bills.”

Stockbox is the local name for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, a federal nutrition program for seniors through the USDA. Your support helps families who rely on programs like Stockbox to put food on the table each month. These programs provide additional stability to low-income seniors, especially when times are more uncertain than ever. Continue supporting this important work at www.HungerTaskForce.org.

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Contact Bard Meier at 414.238.6470 to have Hunger Relief Fund included on your workplace giving form.
Plan ahead this holiday season and order your holiday cards online!

We’re revisiting tradition and the importance of keeping friends and family close this holiday season. Purchase Hunger Task Force Holiday Cards to remind your loved ones how much you care while supporting local hungry families. 100% of proceeds support the Milwaukee community!

Make a donation online: HungerTaskForce.org