

HUNGER TASK FORCE
FREE & LOCAL

HUNGER CONNECTION

HungerTaskForce.org | Spring 2021

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4 | A New Season on The Farm

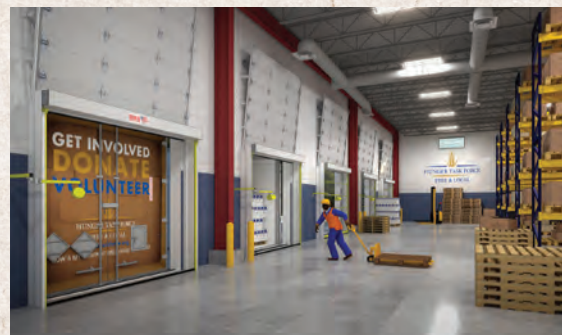


6 | New Northside Service Locations



**Hunger Task Force
New Headquarters!**
See Pg. 2





CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

Building Our Strength to Serve

DURING THE PANDEMIC, HUNGER TASK FORCE HAS BEEN CALLED INTO ACTION TO DISTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE FOOD TO FAMILIES IN NEED, BOTH IN MILWAUKEE AND THROUGHOUT WISCONSIN. WITH OUR FACILITIES BURSTING AT THE SEAMS WITH FOOD, WE REALIZED WE NEEDED TO EXPAND OUR CAPACITY.

At the end of 2020, Hunger Task Force purchased a new building at 5000 W. Electric Avenue in the Village of West Milwaukee. This 120,000 square foot warehouse will serve as the future headquarters of Hunger Task Force! Here are a few of the exciting highlights that will enhance our mission:

- ✓ **100,300 square feet of warehouse space to hold all Hunger Task Force's food resources**
- ✓ **Prime, central location in Milwaukee County for emergency food delivery to food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and senior sites**
- ✓ **Combines our two existing warehouses into one, significantly reducing transportation, storage and shuttling costs**
- ✓ **Moves all our staff under one roof for the first time!**

Before we move into our new headquarters later in 2021, we need to install a large freezer and cooler, build out some additional office space and redevelop an area of the warehouse that will become the Volunteer Welcome Center.

Making all this happen will require some resources, so we're undertaking a capital campaign to raise funds. Our goal is to turn this warehouse into a food bank that will serve families and our community for years to come.

- 1. Make a donation**
- 2. Take a virtual tour of the new building**

Visit:

www.HungerTaskForce.org/NewHQ



>> To support this campaign, schedule an in-person tour or discuss donor recognition opportunities, contact Jonathan Hansen, Director of Development, at (414) 238-6476 or jonathan@hungertaskforce.org.



FEEDING

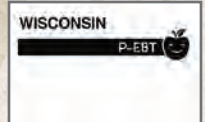
our Most Vulnerable

THE PANDEMIC HAS BEEN CHALLENGING FOR SO MANY THIS PAST YEAR. OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS—CHILDREN AND SENIORS—ARE ALSO THE MOST AFFECTED.

Serving Kids

Hunger Task Force continues to connect children to resources in Wisconsin communities to ensure that every child has access to free, healthy meals during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pandemic EBT is one critical program that reimburses eligible families for school meals that are missed if children were learning virtually at any point since August 2020. Hunger Task Force has created multiple resources to answer questions and help parents. Visit www.HungerTaskForce.org/pebt for more information.



Transportation, especially in rural areas, is one of the largest barriers to food access for families. We also recently piloted a program for children who are learning virtually in Kenosha's Wheatland School District. This program will assure free, home-delivered boxes of school meals with seven days' worth of fresh vegetables, fruit and dairy for those students.

>> For more information about meals for kids, contact Ashley Best, Community Nutrition Program Manager, at ashley.best@hungertaskforce.org.

Serving Seniors

While public senior centers are still closed, Hunger Task Force continues to distribute Stockboxes in senior center parking lots to more than 8,000 seniors each month. Cars are packed full with additional fresh and shelf-stable items, including frozen chicken, cheese, juice, milk, canned fruit, vegetable oil and lentils.

The Mobile Market also continues to offer seniors in low-income neighborhoods access to fresh and healthy items. Hunger Task Force now allows customers to choose between shopping inside the market one customer at a time or allowing staff to shop for them for minimum exposure and maximum safety.



>> View the entire Mobile Market schedule online to find a stop in your neighborhood at HungerTaskForce.org/MobileMarket.

A NEW SEASON

Familiar Faces Returning to The Farm in 2021

Hunger Task Force Farmers faced an incredible challenge last season—farming without volunteers. With hard work and the help of a few farm hands, we grew, harvested and distributed nearly 600,000 pounds of fresh, Wisconsin-grown produce in



2020. We're thrilled to be welcoming volunteers back to The Farm this summer.

To kick off the 2021 season, seven full-time farmers and six part-time farm hands will begin seeding, prepping the fields and transplanting crops. Volunteer groups will be available for crop maintenance, planting and harvesting starting in June!

Hunger Task Force prioritizes efficient and sustainable farming, constantly reassessing crops and planting schedules to feed more people on less land. The Farm will continue to maximize donor resources this spring to grow, harvest and maintain 60 acres of fresh produce for hungry families throughout Milwaukee.



SEED 2 FEED: TIMELINE FROM OUR FARM TO FAMILY TABLE



STAGE 1: INITIAL SEEDING



STAGE 2: SEED TO SEEDLING



STAGE 3: TRANSPLANTING



STAGE 4: CULTIVATION



Spring Volunteer Update

We will be welcoming volunteers back to The Farm starting in June! Safety will be a top priority for each shift, group sizes will be kept small and all volunteer activities will take place outside. Volunteers are required to adhere to the following safety guidelines:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Health screenings | Temperature checks |
| Social distancing | Mask and glove wearing |

While our indoor Volunteer Program continues to be on hold, we are working on a plan to safely bring back volunteers and hope to offer additional updates in late summer. We miss our volunteers - they are a central piece of the Hunger Task Force mission!

For more information about volunteering at The Farm, email Megan Grosse, Beginning Farmer, at megan.grosse@hungertaskforce.org.



STAGE 5: IRRIGATION

FINAL STAGE: HARVEST TO RECIPIENT

New Service Locations on Milwaukee's Northwest Side

MILWAUKEE'S NORTH SIDE IS WROUGHT WITH POVERTY, HOMELESSNESS AND OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THOSE IN NEED. HUNGER TASK FORCE IS EXPANDING ITS SERVICES TO SUPPORT AN AREA WHERE BETWEEN 50–75% OF RESIDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO GET FOOD FROM THEIR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY.

Since the pandemic began, more than 160,000 NEW people enrolled in Wisconsin's largest anti-hunger program, FoodShare. With growing need, Hunger Task Force will be opening a brand new outreach location on Milwaukee's north side to expand access and reach to a much-needed area.

Twelve years ago, Hunger Task Force kicked off one of our most innovative programs by starting a food benefits outreach office on Milwaukee's south side called the Robles Self Service Center. Since then, we've helped nearly 20,000 people every year, connected thousands to benefits they need to avoid having to rely on food pantries, and did it all by communicating with residents in more than a half dozen languages.



TO BE NAMED SOON!

North Side Service Center

4144 N. 56th St. | 53216

Open Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Starting in April, Hunger Task Force will open up our second satellite office to connecting thousands of residents a month to the benefits they need. The location will provide hands-on assistance with FoodShare applications, renewals, benefit reviews and more!

Additional New Sites

Miracle on 35th Street | 6098 N. 35th St. | 53209

Miracle on 35th Street is a community food pantry located within the Mason Temple COGIC church in the heart of 53209. This site will offer service to thousands of individuals within several neighboring zip codes to provide much-needed support to this area.



Social Development Commission (SDC) Northwest

9155 N. 76th St. | 53223

The Social Development Commission is a collection of organizations offering resources to lift people out of poverty. SDC NW Emergency Services and Food Pantry is located in the northwest corner of Milwaukee County and will serve a high-need area of approximately 14,000 individuals.



Welcome Colin

“[COLIN] IS EXCITED TO CONTINUE SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MILWAUKEE—AND ACROSS THE STATE—IN A WHOLE NEW WAY.”

Hunger Task Force is thrilled to welcome Colin McGinn as our Director of Advocacy. Colin will lead our team’s advocacy initiatives to create strong nutrition programs that feed kids, seniors and families. He has spent his last seven years as a public defender, and in his words, “is excited to continue serving the people of Milwaukee—and across the state—in a whole new way.”

>> Contact Colin at (414) 238-6487 or colin.mcgin@hungertaskforce.org to learn how you can get involved and be a voice against hunger.

DOUBLE HELPING FOR HUNGER



The Brewers are back and that means the return of Double Helping for Hunger! For every double the Brewers hit this season, Sargento will donate \$200 to Hunger Task Force to support our mission.

We’re thrilled that MVP Christian Yelich will be supporting the cause once again this year by slugging out doubles with all his teammates! Thank you, Sargento!



HUNGER TASK FORCE FREE & LOCAL

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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

Volunteers, We've Missed You!

**WE MISS OUR VOLUNTEERS!
FROM SORTING FOOD TO
HARVESTING PRODUCE AT THE
FARM, VOLUNTEERS ARE A
CENTRAL PIECE OF THE HUNGER
TASK FORCE MISSION.**

**SAFETY WILL BE TOP PRIORITY
AS WE WORK TO BRING BACK
OUR VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING
KEEPING GROUPS SMALL,
HEALTH SCREENS, SOCIAL
DISTANCING AND MASKS AND
GLOVES FOR ALL.**



>> Please contact Kyle Buehner at (414) 238-6473 or kyle.buehner@hungertaskforce.org with any questions.