



# HUNGER CONNECTION

## Meeting Local Need:

Working With Community to End Hunger



**STOCKBOX**  
**HUNGER TASK FORCE**  
**FEEDING PEOPLE TODAY.**  
**ENDING FUTURE HUNGER.**  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Local Pantry Need on the Rise



Record Farm Harvests



Exciting Winter Events



# CONGRATULATIONS SHERRIE ON 25 YEARS!

Twenty-five years is a very long time to work at the same job. As I reflect on my time, I think about the time well spent, people well fed and two young women who graduated from college (Sam and Match—my daughters). There are so many accomplishments that I could fill days recounting stories. Suffice it to say that I love my job now more than ever. There is great satisfaction in service to others. I want to thank my co-workers and the Board of Directors for being the best people I could have partnered with over the years. And all the volunteers, community leaders, and sponsors, please accept my gratitude for a job well done.

**Sherrie Tussler**  
Executive Director



## Hunger Task Force Speaks at the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, & Health

**On September 28, 2022, Sherrie Tussler, Hunger Task Force’s executive director, was invited to the White House to speak at the Biden-Harris Administration’s Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, & Health. The conference—the first of its kind in over 50 years—was part of the Administration’s National Strategy to bring together key anti-hunger leaders to address solutions to hunger.**

During her panel discussion, Sherrie discussed Hunger Task Force’s statewide efforts to organize and expand the Hunger Relief Federation of Wisconsin and the launch of the ongoing Badger Box program. She also highlighted Hunger Task Force’s anti-hunger leadership and the statewide USDA commodity programs that source food from local farmers and food producers.

Hunger Task Force is grateful to the Biden-Harris Administration and the USDA for their leadership and for prioritizing these important issues for hungry families in Wisconsin.



**For a unique, Wisconsin-esque take on Sherrie’s White House panel discussion, you can listen to a full “debriefing” interview with her and Charlie Berens on The Cripescast at [www.HungerTaskForce.org](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org). Ope!**

# Record Crops Help Families in Need

**This past growing season, the Hunger Task Force Farm grew nearly 600,000 pounds of produce to feed hungry families.**

It was an awesome harvest that included record crop yields for our hoop houses and orchards, both of which keep our farmers busy into the winter months in preparation for the 2023 growing season.

The Farm's two hoop houses produced an all-time high 9,000 pounds of spinach, lettuce, mustard greens, collards, cantaloupe and tomatoes to boost our harvest. Even when it's cold outside, these warm and steamy structures trap the sun's energy to help our team grow fresh produce year-round, including our current winter carrot and spinach plantings.

The Farm's apple and pear orchards also had a banner season, including a record 80,105 pounds of apples. During the winter months, our farmers will be busy managing and pruning the 11 acres of orchards and 780 trees! The pruning process takes 800 farmer hours to complete so the orchards are ready to produce more fruit in 2023.

You can help Hunger Task Force get ready for the 2023 growing season by making an end-of-year gift to purchase seeds, fertilizer and equipment. Make a Farm gift in the enclosed envelope or give online at [www.HungerTaskForce.org](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org).



**2022 TOTALS**

NEARLY

**600,000**

POUNDS OF FRESH PRODUCE HARVESTED TO FEED HUNGRY FAMILIES

**9,000**

POUNDS OF FRESH PRODUCE GROWN IN THE FARM'S HOOP HOUSES

**80,105**

POUNDS OF APPLES

## USDA Deputy Under Secretary Tours Hunger Task Force



This fall, Hunger Task Force was thrilled to host the United States Department of Agriculture's Deputy Under Secretary Stacy Dean during her two-day visit to Milwaukee on September 12 and 13. Deputy Under Secretary Dean was appointed by President Biden to advance the President's agenda on increasing nutrition assistance for struggling individuals and families.

During her visit, Deputy Under Secretary Dean toured key Hunger Task Force service locations and the food bank, and received a first-hand look at our innovative programs including Stockbox DoorDash, the Mobile Market, FoodShare self-service centers and Badger Box. Deputy Under Secretary Dean also participated in a community distribution where she helped load up Stockboxes, Badger Boxes and fresh produce from the Hunger Task Force Farm for local seniors.



Join Us in the Homestretch!



# Food for Families

Food For Families is entering the home stretch! Organizations large and small have registered virtual food drives across our community to support local kids, families and seniors this holiday season. From gifting holiday hams to full, festive meals, a virtual Food For Families food drive is the easiest and most convenient way to support the tradition of giving this season.

There's still plenty of time to register your group's drive or make a direct contribution to our public virtual food drive page.



## Johnson Controls



BIG THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS AT JOHNSON CONTROLS, WHOSE COMPANY-WIDE VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE RAISED

# \$14,500

TO SET THE TONE THIS SEASON!

*Customized with your name and private link.*



To get your customized virtual food drive link or to make a gift, visit [www.hungertaskforce.org/food-for-families](http://www.hungertaskforce.org/food-for-families)



## Join the Hunger Task Force Legacy Society!

One great way to support Hunger Task Force is through a will or planned gift. The Hunger Task Force Legacy Society is a generous group of folks who have committed to support Hunger Task Force through planned gifts so our mission stays strong into the future. As you think about your legacy and causes you care about, please consider joining the Legacy Society and supporting Hunger Task Force through your estate.

For more information, contact Herb Reichelt, Giving Manager, at 414.238.6483 or [herb.reichelt@hungertaskforce.org](mailto:herb.reichelt@hungertaskforce.org).



# Local Need Rises as 2022 Winds Down

Local need has been steadily rising in 2022 across all areas of Hunger Task Force’s service network. From emergency food pantries to low-income seniors sites, Hunger Task Force is serving over 75,000 people each month.

PANTRY TRAFFIC HAS SPIKED FROM

# 19,000

PEOPLE PER MONTH, TO

# 32,000

PEOPLE PER MONTH

With inflation, rising food costs and upcoming reductions in benefits to important nutrition programs, the local need will continue to increase this winter and into 2023, particularly in the emergency food pantry network. This past year, pantry traffic has spiked from a record low of 19,000 people per month to as high as 32,000 people per month. Many families are making tough choices between keeping the heat on and putting food on the table, and if benefit reductions take place in January 2023, we anticipate pantry numbers will continue to climb.

Hunger Task Force is hard at work to bolster our food bank with healthy and culturally-appropriate foods to meet the increased need and serve families with dignity.

Community support is needed now, more than ever, to help feed kids, families and seniors. By making a gift to Hunger Task Force, you help your Free & Local food bank purchase and provide food during tough times.



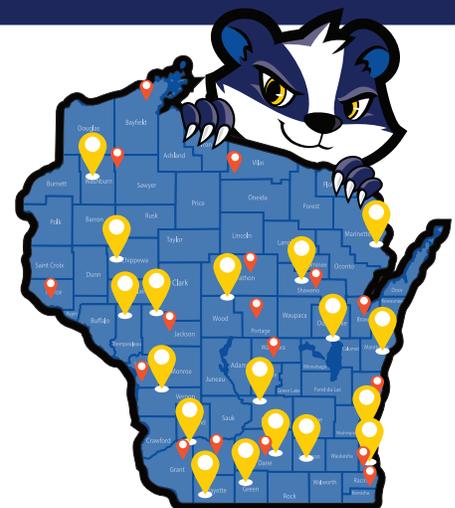
Make a gift in the enclosed envelope or donate online at [www.HungerTaskForce.org](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org).

## The Badger Box Program Extends into 2023!

There’s great news for statewide hunger relief and Wisconsin’s food producers! Governor Evers and the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection have provided an additional \$5 million to extend the Badger Box program into 2023.

The \$5 million investment, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act, will support the Badger Box program and the work to eliminate food insecurity in rural communities, urban centers and Tribal Nations across Wisconsin. Hunger Task Force launched the Badger Box program in 2022 to feed families during the pandemic while simultaneously supporting Wisconsin agriculture and farmers.

As advocates, we need your help to make the Badger Box permanent in Wisconsin. We’re calling on supporters to reach out to their federal and state legislators to let them know the Badger Box offers dignity to families in need and supports local farmers, suppliers and food producers. Badger Box is a uniquely Wisconsin solution to hunger in the Badger State!



Farmers and Food Producers

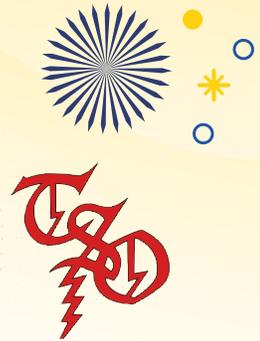


Badger Box Distribution Hubs

To learn how you can support the Badger Box program, email our team at [badgerbox@hungertaskforce.org](mailto:badgerbox@hungertaskforce.org).

# Exciting Winter Events!

This December, join Hunger Task Force and our partners for holiday rock shows, ham-tastic fundraisers, black-tie galas and more as we work together to end hunger during the holidays.



## December: Lend a Helping Ham

All December, Meijer and local sponsors will be teaming up to Lend a Helping Ham! A donation of just \$15 puts a holiday ham on the table for a family in need. Meijer and others will be matching ham donations, so tune in to 102.9 FM The HOG to hear all the details. You can keep our big freezer full of holiday hams by donating online at [www.HungerTaskForce.org](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org) or stop by 5000 W. Electric Avenue to drop off the real deal in person.

## December 22: Trans-Siberian Orchestra

Holiday ballads, lasers and pyrotechnics await as the Trans-Siberian Orchestra takes the stage at Fiserv Forum for two shows on December 22! This is one spectacular holiday tradition you do not want to miss, with both a matinee and an evening performance to accommodate all schedules. Grab your tickets now, knowing \$1 from each ticket benefits Hunger Task Force and Milwaukee's hungry.



## December: Home 4 the Holidays

The original virtual food drive returns for a 7th season of feeding the hungry! Join Raymond James & Associates and TMJ4 to fill holiday dinner tables when you donate through the Home 4 the Holidays Virtual Food Drive. Also stay tuned to TMJ4 for details on a very special food and fundraiser on Monday, December 19, live from the television studio!

## December 30: Feed Milwaukee Gala

After a 2-year hiatus, the Feed Milwaukee Holiday Gala is returning to Turner Hall on Friday, December 30! There's no better way to celebrate the holidays and help feed the hungry than by partying down at this long-running gala to end hunger, which started nearly 20 years ago as a college apartment party. Even Santa and Rudolph are going to stick around for a few extra days to make a special appearance.

# New Board Members Spotlight



**Kareeda Chones-Aguam**  
Milwaukee Bucks

“The passion that Sherrie and her team exude day in and day out in every human interaction is admirable; the role that Hunger Task Force plays in our community is crucial for the sustainability of our local and statewide neighbors.”

Hunger Task Force is excited to welcome Kareeda Chones-Aguam and Jason Gottlieb as new members of our Board of Directors. Kareeda is the Senior Vice President of Partner Strategy and Management with the world-champion Milwaukee Bucks and Fiserv Forum. Jason is a Senior Product Specialist at Wolters Kluwer Health.

“Hunger Task Force allows me to serve my community and the state through our myriad anti-hunger initiatives. The unique blend of hunger relief efforts and anti-hunger advocacy sets Hunger Task Force apart in its pursuit to end hunger throughout the state of Wisconsin.”



**Jason Gottlieb**  
Wolters Kluwer Health

## Longtime Board Member Receives BizTimes Volunteer of the Year Award



**Congratulations to Mary Burgoon, Global Portfolio Manager at Rockwell Automation, for her recognition as BizTimes Media’s Corporate Volunteer of the Year.**

This award is given to a for-profit non-executive volunteer who demonstrates outstanding dedication to a nonprofit or multiple nonprofit organizations. Mary has been a board member of Hunger Task Force since 2005.



5000 W. Electric Avenue  
West Milwaukee, WI 53219  
Phone 414.777.0483

Hunger Task Force believes that every person has a right to healthy 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.

### OUR CORE VALUES

**DIGNITY | JUSTICE | EQUITY  
COMPASSION | STEWARDSHIP**

Hunger Task Force, Inc. is a charitable, 501(c)3 organization. Our Tax ID is 39-1345847.

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# HUNGER TASK FORCE

FREE & LOCAL

[www.HungerTaskForce.org](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org)

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[linkedin.com/company/hunger-task-force](https://linkedin.com/company/hunger-task-force)

## Make Your Year-End Gift!

2022 is winding down and 2023 is just around the corner. Hunger Task Force must raise \$1,988,459 before December 31 to make our goal and meet our responsibilities to hungry kids, families and seniors in our community. You can help us make that goal!

If you have already made your gift, thank you! If not, you can make a tax-deductible, year-end gift by placing a check in the enclosed envelope or by scanning this handy QR code to donate at [www.HungerTaskForce.org](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org) by December 31.



Your gift will  
help support

LOCAL KIDS

FAMILIES

& SENIORS

in our  
community!