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144 Million Pounds of Food Rescued: Midwest Food Bank Marked National Nutrition Month with Powerful Food Waste Initiative

Normal, IL – During National Nutrition Month in March, Midwest Food Bank highlighted its commitment to tackling food waste by ramping up food rescue efforts and ensuring that nutritious, surplus food reaches families in need. In 2024 alone, the organization rescued more than 144 million pounds of food, redirecting it from landfills to dinner tables across the nation.

More than 5 million pounds of bulk food were repackaged by dedicated volunteers into manageable portions, then distributed—completely free of charge—to over 2,400 nonprofit partners. These efforts, featured in the 2024 Annual Impact Report, detailed an astounding \$526 million worth of food and resources provided to communities nationwide.

Report, which details the \$526 million worth of food and resources distributed nationwide.

"Food Rescue is Impact": Reflecting on a Month of Action

"Food rescue is not just about reducing waste—it's about getting food into the hands of those who need it most," said Jada Hoerr, Chief Executive Officer at Midwest Food Bank. *"With the support of our partners and volunteers, we're turning excess into impact—ensuring that nutritious food feeds families instead of filling landfills."*

Midwest Food Bank's unique model strengthens food access while significantly reducing environmental impact. By partnering with food manufacturers, distributors, and nonprofit organizations, the food bank rescues surplus food and ensures it reaches those in need.

Several leading brands play a critical role in Midwest Food Bank's food rescue efforts by donating surplus products, including:

- **Kellanova**
- **WK Kellogg**
- **Nestlé**
- **Convoy of Hope**

- **Feed the Children**

These partnerships help transform excess food into nutritious meals for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.

How You Can Help

Midwest Food Bank encourages individuals and businesses to take part in the fight against food waste and hunger:

- **Volunteer** – Help sort, pack, or distribute rescued food.
- **Donate** – Support logistics and transportation efforts to deliver food where it's needed most.
- **Partner** – Food manufacturers and retailers can contribute surplus food to aid the cause.

To learn more about our impact, read our 2024 Annual Impact Report at https://midwestfoodbank.org/images/Annual_Report_2024-SP.pdf

Visit www.midwestfoodbank.org or text @MFB to 52014 to get involved.

About Midwest Food Bank

Founded in 2003 on the Kieser family farm in rural McLean County, Illinois, Midwest Food Bank now operates 10 domestic locations serving 25 states and two international locations in East Africa and Haiti. Nonprofit agencies receive food at no cost, making Midwest Food Bank the largest volunteer-driven food bank in the U.S. For more information, visit www.midwestfoodbank.org.

Midwest Food Bank ("MFB") is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) charity. As a faith-based organization, it is the mission of Midwest Food Bank to share the love of Christ by alleviating hunger and malnutrition; and providing disaster relief. Our vision is to serve those in need with excellence, providing physical and spiritual nourishment.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Jada Hoerr at 309-370-0171 or email jhoerr@midwestfoodbank.org