



MFB Peoria remote distribution site in Oakville, IA



MFB INDIANA remote distribution site in Vincennes, IN



MFB Georgia remote distribution site in Morristown, TN

July 2019



Midwest
FOOD BANK

AROUND THE TABLE

CURRENT REMOTE DISTRIBUTION SITES

From MFB Arizona
Tucson, AZ

From MFB Georgia
Morristown, TN

From MFB Indiana
Francesville, IN
Greenwood, IN
Vincennes, IN

From MFB Normal, IL
Fairfield, IL
Stanton, KY
Dickson, TN

From MFB Peoria, IL
Quincy, IL
Rock Island, IL
Oakville, IA
Harlan, KY

If you live near one of these locations and would like to volunteer to help, please contact us to learn more.

midwestfoodbank.org

Remote distribution sites bless MFB and agencies

Midwest Food Bank provides food to over 1,700 non-profit agencies a month. In most cases, these partners travel to one of MFB's locations on distribution days to load their vehicles with food to give away. Did you know that MFB distributes food off-site, as well?

Remote distribution began in Fairfield, IL. A growing number of Southern Illinois agencies were traveling a great distance to MFB for food. Some did not have the means or manpower to make the trek. The need to better serve that area was clear.

In September 2017, MFB Bloomington-Normal began holding a distribution in Fairfield, about three hours south of Bloomington. MFB would send a truck there for an all-day distribution event each month. The site significantly cut the time and mileage for Southern Illinois agencies. This allowed these ministries to focus their time and resources on their clients.

The Lord has blessed the effort. Eighteen agencies picked up food at that first



distribution. Currently our Fairfield location serves 75 partner agencies each month.

Using the Fairfield model, other remote distributions have been established. There are now 12 off-site distributions being served by five MFB locations (see sidebar for specifics).

A few of those are extremely remote (Harlan and Stanton KY, Dickson and Morristown, TN). In these cases, a ministry has a passion for that area. They provide all of the volunteer support and drive food to the location.

Remote distributions increase MFB's impact. While there are equipment and fuel costs, remote distributions are a means of reaching more people in a cost effective way. As the Lord continues to provide opportunities, MFB will continue to assess locations for possible remote distribution.



MFB Arizona remote distribution site in Tucson, AZ.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

SHARE

>30% OF THE FOOD SUPPLY IN THE UNITED STATES IS WASTED

1. BECOME A FOOD PARTNER
2. START A FOOD DRIVE
3. SPREAD THE WORD

DONATE

99¢ OF EVERY DOLLAR DONATED FEEDS HUNGRY PEOPLE

VOLUNTEER

YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!
1 HOUR OF VOLUNTEERING PROVIDES 275+ MEALS FOR THOSE IN NEED



22,754

VOLUNTEERS IN 2018



To receive email updates, please visit our website and go to the "News" button. Select "Newsletter" and then choose "eNewsletter." MidwestFoodBank.org

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

Gathering Humanity blesses refugees

There was a family from the Congo that had spent a decade living in a refugee camp. They arrived in Phoenix, AZ, with very little. Gathering Humanity set the family up with an apartment, food and other items for basic living. The mother of this family recently had a baby. Volunteers



from Gathering Humanity donated baby food and products to bless the family. The child was named Favor, in recognition of the favor and blessings showered upon them.

Gathering Humanity is a non-profit charitable agency that primarily serves refugees and those seeking asylum in the US. It works hand-in-hand with all four federal refugee resettlement agencies in Phoenix to support refugees being resettled in the Phoenix area.

As a partner agency of Midwest Food Bank Arizona, Gathering Humanity receives food to give to the refugees they help. Since October 2018, they have provided over 22,000 backpacks filled with food to refugees.

"Gathering Humanity is 100% volunteer operated," says cofounder and Executive Director Christina Atwood. She appreciates the help MFB Arizona offers. Midwest Food Bank is blessed to support caring partner agencies like Gathering Humanity.

At left, Gathering Humanity volunteers fill backpacks to give to refugees.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteering is a perfect retirement activity

As a person who likes to be active in the service of the Lord, Dan Sager and Midwest Food Bank are a perfect fit. Dan is a volunteer at MFB's satellite location in Fairfield, IL.

Beginning at age 11 as a newspaper carrier, Dan has had a long employment career. Ten years ago, after 34 years of working for GTE (Verizon), Dan retired. His wife, Cindy, also retired from a 25-year banking career.

Before long, Dan began to feel a little lost. He found what he was looking for in volunteering at MFB. Dan manages the Fairfield warehouse, does inventory, schedules volunteers, and prepares pallets of product for agency pick up. His willingness to volunteer has led to a practically full-time position.

Dan is touched when he sees so many people in need. "I want to be a blessing," he says. "God has moved me to do this and I will help in any way I can."

Also helping at MFB is Dan's wife, Cindy, when she is not volunteering at the local hospital.

Parents of two sons and a daughter, they enjoy time with children and grandchildren. Dan has served on church boards, and is the Vice President of the board for the local ambulance service. He enjoys going on church mission trips throughout the US and Latin America, and especially likes South America.

"God has blessed Cindy and me so much over our lifetime that I am glad to give back," says Dan. "It is rewarding to help our partner agencies feed the hungry in our area."

Volunteers like Dan and Cindy make the Midwest Food Bank possible. Contact the MFB nearest you to see what an impact you can make.



Dan Sager moving product in the Fairfield remote distribution location.

UPDATES FROM MFB LOCATIONS

ARIZONA

MFB Arizona is thankful to have added Safeway and Trader Joe's to our regular product donors. The fresh produce donated is a real blessing to our partner agencies. Our Tucson remote distribution is continuing to have strong support in the southern part of our state. A few pallets of food have been sent to Flagstaff, AZ, as we begin to establish a second remote distribution.

In May, we were blessed to have Kowalski Construction include Midwest Food Bank in their booth at the AMA tradeshow. The Kowalski booth allowed attendees to assemble a food bag for those in need. Attendees took their food bag with them to share it with someone it could bless.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, IL

Spring and summer tend to mean Disaster Relief. MFB Bloomington-Normal is the staging ground for most disaster relief. We shipped three loads of food and clean-up supplies to flood-stricken areas in Nebraska, and a load of food boxes to Davenport, IA in May. Before the month was over, an additional call came for food boxes in Jefferson City, MO. Devastating tornado activity also brought the need for hygiene kits, drinks, and snacks for the Dayton, OH, area. As we begin the 2019 hurricane season, our location will respond with the help of our volunteers and donors.

FLORIDA

MFB Florida has been looking toward the future with goal-setting. In addition to lowering our debt, we plan to continue adding new partner agencies. Eight agencies were taken from our wait list and made active partners in the last month.

A new mobile pantry was added in Cape Coral, with a goal of reducing the wait time at other locations.

GEORGIA

MFB Georgia plans to increase the amount of nutritious food we distribute. To do this, we plan to build a large capacity freezer and cooler, capable of storing 12 semi-loads of fresh and frozen food.

Additionally we will build a community gathering space that will be available for our volunteers and we will offer this space to businesses, civic and church groups, sports teams and families to use. To learn more about the project and how you can help, contact our Executive Director, Will Garner at wgarner@midwestfoodbank.org.

INDIANA

The Indiana Division had its first Indy 500 Donor appreciation event on May 15th. The event was well attended with nearly 70 supporters showing up to enjoy the day. Our guests were treated to a delicious catered lunch, Marco Andretti meet-and-greet, and a private tour of the Andretti pit area.

Volunteers are a vital part of our organization and during our annual Volunteer Banquet we took time to celebrate our volunteers for their faithful service with a special Hawaiian-themed banquet. Our volunteers were recognized for their hours of service and nine received special name tags for giving 500 lifetime hours of service.

MORTON, IL

"Add some hamburger and cheese and that's some kind of good." That's a recent taste testimonial about Tender Mercies from a food pantry served at the Morton location. While the Tender Mercies meal packet can be served alone, MFB provides ideas and recipe cards to enhance this highly nutritious meal of rice, pre-cooked pinto beans, fortified chicken seasoning, and soy protein. This shelf stable product allows food pantries to always have a healthy option available. Bon appetit! To sponsor Tender Mercies meal packets contact us at 309-291-0900.

PEORIA, IL

We are grateful for granting dollars from Walmart Foundation, Community Foundation of Central IL, and AmerenIL to purchase a much needed refrigerated box truck. It will be used for our daily grocery donation pickups and other refrigerated donations and/or deliveries.

MFB Peoria has an immediate need for volunteer box truck drivers for the local grocery routes. No special license needed. For more information, please call/email Carrie at 309-691-5270 cdoolin@midwestfoodbank.org

TEXAS

Ron Donnini was hired as Administrative Director of MFB Texas. He began in April. Ron brings a wealth of experience to MFB as CEO or president of multiple companies. He will oversee daily operations including accounting functions, agency, volunteer, donor and staff development.

"I love serving with all of the folks at Midwest Food Bank," says Ron. "I also enjoy interacting with the agencies we serve. I want them to know I pray for them daily." Welcome aboard, Ron.

International location updates:

East Africa

After much effort, MFB East Africa has been able to get into South Sudan to help refugees there. In early May, 28 metric tonnes of Tender Mercies were distributed in Juba, South Sudan.

There has been civil war and strife there since 2013 and ethnic violence preceding that. This unrest has caused the departure of other relief agencies.

The food was distributed by Thiec Nhialic ("Youth Mama"), a group pursuing evangelism and unity among believers. The connection to MFB came through Rebecca Garang, recently recognized as the Vice President of South Sudan.

Haiti

Tender Mercies is the mainstay of our feeding efforts in Haiti. Three sea containers, including over half a million Tender Mercies meals, have arrived there.

Two storage depots for housing Tender Mercies meals have been constructed in Cape Haitien and Jacmel. Each has the capacity to store four to five sea containers of food.

Research is being conducted to determine the feasibility of sourcing and producing Tender Mercies in-country.

MFB Haiti is beginning a partnership with Matthew 28 Ministries. They operate feeding stations that feed children up to 5 years old.



Midwest Food Bank

2031 Warehouse Road

Normal, IL 61761

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“Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” **Philippians 2:4**

CONNECT

Follow us on Facebook



ENGAGE

Contact your local Midwest Food Bank to learn more about our volunteer opportunities.

SUPPORT

We are thankful for your support in prayer. If you are led to contribute financially, we have enclosed an envelope for your convenience. On behalf of those we serve, thank you.

Produced by Midwest Food Bank
2031 Warehouse Road, Normal, IL 61761

Measured, recurring giving

Month by month, year by year, Midwest Food Bank is sharing the blessings with those in need. With that same cadence, a group of donors we call “Share Partners” make faithful contributions that bring our mission to life.

Share Partners are donors who make donations at set intervals. They are automatically deducted from a checking account or debit/credit card. This consistent giving allows MFB to do specific planning, knowing the funds will be coming.

The Share Partner program provides convenience and benefits to donors as well:

- There is no need to remember to give. Donations are automatically applied and will appear on an account statement. Receipts are issued as donations are received.
- Donors can specify their donations to go to General Operations, Tender Mercies, or Disaster Relief, for any of our 10 locations.
- The donor selects the amount. There is not a minimum threshold to be a Share Partner.
- Share Partners can easily manage their giving online. Recurring donations can be set up, modified, or halted through our website.

If you think Share Partners giving is right for you, please visit our website and click on “Donate.” When completing the form, there is an option to select “How often will you donate?”

On behalf of those Midwest Food Bank serves, we offer our thanks to faithful Share Partners.

Disaster relief underway

At the request of The Salvation Army, Midwest Food Bank has been sending disaster relief:

- 2 loads of cleaning supplies and 1 load of food to the victims of flooding in Omaha, NE
- A load of family food boxes to the flood victims in Davenport, IA
- A load of family food boxes to tornado victims in Jefferson City, MO
- Plans are in motion at press time to send food boxes to victims of Dayton, OH

Typically, MFB disaster relief is in full swing in late summer/early fall, with hurricane season. During that time, truckloads quickly go into double digits. Watch our Facebook page for updates during that time. MFB’s disaster relief efforts are only possible through generous donations and dedicated volunteer support.