The Voices of Hunger

Not everybody who's hungry is somebody who's homeless.
—Pantry client
Voice of the Executive Director

2010 was another challenging year for Michigan, but once again, our food bank network was up to the task to meet the needs of individuals and families seeking emergency food. In the Hunger in America 2010-Michigan study, we learned Michigan food banks are feeding 1.1 million people each year. That’s 196,400 people each week with almost half being children or seniors.

Thanks to the support of our generous partners and our food and financial donors, the food bank network distributed 105 million pounds of food throughout the state. That’s a 25% increase over the previous year. The food was distributed through a variety of programs including: food pantries, after-school snack programs, homeless shelters, senior centers, weekend backpacks, soup kitchens, kids’ summer lunch programs and senior food boxes. Our food banks worked tirelessly to make sure families, children and seniors facing hunger received the food they needed.

Despite the challenging times, we experienced many successes in 2010 as we looked for new, innovative ways to get more food into the hands of people in need.

First, we piloted two new programs. 1. Michigan Farm to Food Bank program, which contracted with farms to grow a portion of their acreage to supply fresh fruits and vegetables for the food bank in their region. In the first year, four farms grew 607,000 pounds of fresh produce to nourish people in need. 2. Food Assistance Program Outreach, which provided training and materials for food bank staff and volunteers to assist individuals in applying for Food Assistance (food stamps), which is the first line and best defense against hunger. In its first year, the program helped 660 households apply and provided $1.3 million in federal benefits.

Second, in our role as advocates for Michigan’s people facing hunger, we were successful in maintaining funding for critical statewide food programs; we helped preserve and enhance key provisions of national child nutrition programs and we expanded the partnership of other hunger and human service agencies through the Michigan Alliance to Stop Hunger.

Third, we expanded our sources of support to build our fundraising capacity through new and existing partners like Walmart, Pistons Care Telethon, CMS Energy Foundation, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger and many others. Their generous contributions helped our network of food banks feed even more people in need.

Thank you for your continued support so we can continue our work to end hunger in Michigan. Please take a moment to review the highlights of our year and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jane Marshall
Executive Director

[Images of statistics: In 2010, 55.6 million meals were provided to hungry Michigan citizens through Food Bank Council of Michigan food programs. In 2010, four food bank farms were established to produce fresh produce for the food bank in their region. In 2010, 660 Michigan households were helped in applying for food assistance benefits.]
Hunger Free Michigan Awards

We envision a future where everyone in Michigan has enough safe, nutritious food for a healthy and productive life. And while the vision is essential, it is only the starting point. It is the people actually doing the work that make the vision real. Each year, Food Bank Council of Michigan recognizes organizations, groups and individuals impacting hunger in our state. The awards are given at the annual Michigan Harvest Gathering Celebration Luncheon. Below are some of the awardees.

Four Seasons Award: Bill & Debbie Sheets, Sheets Trucking

Great Lakes, Great People Award: Don Kiowski, on behalf of State of Michigan employees

The Bridge Award: Don Kuzawa, Michigan Potato Industry Commission

Golden Harvest Award: Erwin & Casey Styns, Styns Farms

Hunger for Justice Award: Rep. Kim Meltzer

Hunger for Justice Award: Kate Duggan, on behalf of Rep. Gary McDowell

2010 Member Food Banks & Distribution Totals

3,120 hunger-relief agencies and programs distributed 105,138,550 pounds of food.

Each member food bank has a geographic service region in which they provide food resources to communities. Based on their region, some member food banks have supporting distribution warehouses. The member food banks and their supporting warehouses are able to take large donations of food. The local emergency food providers (agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters) then “shop” the regional food bank or warehouse to acquire food to meet the needs for their own community programs and services.

Make an easy, secure donation at fbemich.org

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Mission

The Food Bank Council of Michigan provides statewide leadership to members in their efforts to alleviate hunger through the distribution of surplus food to those in need.

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DeWayne Wells, Chair, Gleaners Community Food Bank, Detroit
Dave Karr, Vice Chair, Mid-Michigan Food Bank, Lansing
Carolyn Bloodworth, Secretary/Treasurer, Consumers Energy Foundation, Jackson
John Arnold, Member At-Large, Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank, Grand Rapids
Eileen Spring, Member At-Large, Food Gatherers, Ann Arbor
Keith Creagh, Neogen, Lansing
Susan Goodell, Forgotten Harvest, Oak Park
Rusty Hills, State of Michigan, Lansing
William Kerr, Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, Flint
Anne Lipsey, Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes, Kalamazoo
Mary Meirnord, Ingham County Food Bank, Lansing
Rose Miller, Food Bank of South Central Michigan, Battle Creek
Terri Stangl, Center for Civil Justice, Saginaw

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Justin Fast, Food Assistance Outreach Manager
Torri Fisher, Director of Programs & Member Services
Kim Haltmann, Director of Accounting & Administration
Mary Kay Hauck, Development & Marketing Manager
Jenny Smith, Administrative Assistant

How the Food Bank Council Gets Help to People in Need

Donations and Grants are Made to Food Bank Council of Michigan

Food is Procured from Growers, Retailers and Processors

Food is Transported into and around the State to Member Food Banks

Food is Sorted and Distributed by Food Banks to Hunger-Relief Agencies

Hunger-Relief Agencies Give Food to Individuals and Families in Need

I was really ashamed of asking for help.
- Pantry client

How You Can Help Food Bank Council of Michigan

As a nonprofit organization, Food Bank Council of Michigan depends on the support of its members, foundations, corporate partners and individual donors to carry on its work of feeding Michigan’s families in need. Here are four ways you can help.

1. Make an online donation—Every dollar you give helps secure five meals.
   www.fbc mich.org/donate

2. Join our AntiHunger Program—Your monthly support helps ensure that we stand ready to help vulnerable families wherever and whenever the need arises. To become a monthly online supporter, go to www.fbc mich.org/antihunger

3. Matching gifts—Many employers match charitable donations made by their employees. Check with your personnel department about your company’s program.

4. Joining the fight—One in ten people in Michigan are at risk for hunger. Register online and add your voice to the fight against hunger in Michigan. You’ll receive periodic hunger updates and the chance to make your voice heard in calls-to-action. To join, go to www.fbc mich.org/join

Of course it feels good, but that’s not why I do it. Volunteering is a moral thing. It’s the right thing to do
- Food bank volunteer

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2010 Food Programs Accomplishments

**Michigan Agricultural Surplus System (MASS)**
Funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services

The MASS program is a statewide effort to direct Michigan’s surplus of agricultural products through the network of food banks in our state to help ensure that hungry families have a source of nutritious, Michigan-grown fresh food. MASS provides a market for millions of pounds of produce that is wholesome and nutritious, but is unsalable in retail markets (due to size or blemish issues.) Without MASS, the produce would be sent to landfill or simply tilled under by the grower. The MASS program benefits Michigan growers by providing an additional market for their produce and benefits Michigan’s most fragile populations by providing the high-quality nutrition they need.

**2010 Success**: 6.1 million pounds of fresh produce directed to Michigan food banks.

**The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)**
Funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Education

TEFAP is a Federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans, including elderly people, by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. Types of food distributed through TEFAP include: canned fruits and vegetables, fruit juice, meat and poultry, beans, pasta products, peanut butter, cereal and rice and soups. FBCM distributes the food through the network of food banks which then distribute the food directly to needy households or to hunger-relief programs that prepare and serve meals in a congregate setting.

**2010 Success**: 16.9 million pounds of food delivered to food banks, providing the equivalent of 13.2 million meals for Michigan families in-need.

We had to choose between putting gas in the car to get my husband to and from work or buying food.
– Pantry client

Make an easy, secure online donation at fbcmich.org

2010 MASS Donors
- Asheline Cider Co
- Blake Farms
- Blackhawk Produce
- Buuna Farms
- B&H Berryland
- Cedar Valley Packing
- Cooperative Elevator Co
- Dietlich Orchards
- Dutchman Orchards
- Ellert’s Farm Products
- Erie Farms
- Erickson Farms
- Frank Farms
- Fresh Solution Farms
- Gavel Orchards
- Harvey’s U-Pick Farm
- Hess Farm
- Hoxton Produce
- Huffman Farms
- Jenkins Potato Farm
- King Orchards
- Korsan Farms
- Krummey Farms
- Locavore Food Distributors
- Michael Styma Farms
- Oliver Farm
- Phoenix Farm
- Pleasant Pוכל Produce
- Ringview Orchards
- Smith Brothers Farms
- Styma Potato Farms (Dev & Naomi)
- Veg Pro., Inc.
- Wilt Farm
2010 Food Programs Accomplishments

Michigan Farm to Food Bank (Pilot)
Funded by support from Walmart and Pistons Care Telethon benefiting FBVM

Michigan Farm to Food Bank (MFFB) is a 2010 pilot program to secure a consistent source of Michigan-grown fruits and vegetables for Michigan food banks while supporting more sustainable agricultural and community practices. MFFB established four “food bank” farms, contracting with the farmers to dedicate a percentage of their crops to production for the food bank in their region. Member food banks in Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Oak Park and Detroit benefitted from increased and consistent availability of a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the growing season. In addition, MFFB helps reduce the amount of “food miles” to get food to the food banks and supports family farms by opening up new, local markets.

2010 Success: 607,270 pounds of locally-grown fruits and vegetables, feeding local families in-need.

Michigan Mobile Food Bank
Funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services

Transportation is one of the most important and most costly elements of food banking. While much of the product in food banks is donated from generous retailers and wholesalers, there is a large expense in moving the donations around the state and into individual food banks. Michigan Mobile Food Bank provides our member food banks with the necessary funds to cover transportation costs. Michigan Mobile Food Bank also helps support the dispatch of mobile food pantries for community food distribution in areas without established emergency food agencies.

2010 Success: 14 million pounds of food was transported throughout the network of Michigan food banks.

Food Assistance Program Outreach (Pilot)
Funded by a grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The Food Assistance Program (FAP, formerly the Food Stamp Program) is the first line of defense against hunger, but many potentially eligible clients are not receiving the help they could. In Michigan, only 45% of those eligible for FAP receive benefits. While there are many reasons for under-participation, lack of information about FAP and access to the ability to apply are a couple of the barriers. The FAP Outreach provides materials and trains member food bank staff and volunteers to provide direct application assistance to clients in need of emergency food who may also be eligible for FAP.

2010 Success: 660 households assisted, providing an additional $1.3 million in benefits or 1,327,828 meals.

Family Food Box Program
Funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Human Services

The Family Food Box Program provides a one-time box of food to low-income pregnant women or families with children. The 20-pound food box includes staples such as: tuna, peanut butter, pasta, beans, pasta, chili and canned fruit and vegetables. The food boxes are a welcome addition for parents struggling to provide a variety of nutritious food for their families.

2010 Success: 10,000 boxes distributed, providing 234,375 meals for Michigan families in-need.

Hunger makes you feel forsaken, it makes you feel unworthy.
— Pantry client

Not everybody who’s hungry is somebody who’s homeless.
— Pantry client

Michigan Harvest Gathering
Funded by donations from Michigan corporations, foundations and individuals

Michigan Harvest Gathering is an annual fall food and fundraising event to feed Michigan families. FBVM sponsors and coordinates the campaign to help stock food bank shelves and to help pay for the cost of transporting emergency food around the state.

2010 Success: $620,254 and 299,787 pounds of food donated which helped provide 3.6 million more meals for Michigan families in-need.

Feeding people is often the first step toward whatever recovery they’re going to have in life... whatever success they're going to have in life.
— Food bank employee
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## SOURCES OF SUPPORT

- In-kind contributions 81%
- Grant revenue 11%
- General contributions & other 8%

## EXPENDITURES

- Program Services 98.4%
- Administration 1.1%
- Fundraising .5%
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2010 Member Food Banks & Distribution Totals

Map Key
- FBCM Member Food Bank
- Local supporting distribution warehouse

3,120 hunger-relief agencies and programs distributed 105,138,550 pounds of food.

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Client Testimonials

Last summer, we distributed blank paper plates to people using the services of a food pantry, soup kitchen or shelter and asked them to write or illustrate what the food they were receiving meant to them. We collected thousands of paper plate testimonials and then bundled them up and delivered them to our Michigan Senators and Representatives so they could see the impact the food bank network has on people facing hunger.
Thank You to Our Donors...

Food Bank Council of Michigan relies on the generous support of corporate, foundation, agricultural and individual donors. Thank you for all you give to help feed Michigan’s hungry!

$275,000 DONOR
Walmart Foundation

$50,000–$100,000 DONORS
CMS Energy Company
Palace Sports and Entertainment

$30,000–$35,000 DONORS
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Michigan Health & Hospital Association
Rolinn M. Gerstacker Foundation
Tom Staley

$10,000–$20,000 DONORS
General Mills Foundation
Yoplait-Reed City
Harry Holts
Kellogg Company
Meijer, Inc.
Quicken Loans
Verizon

$3,000–$7,500 DONORS
All State Insurance Company
Diane Burdette
Edw. C. Levy Co.
GE Foundation
Kid Rock Foundation
Michaïl & Melissa McLaughlin
Michigan Elks Association
Sky Sprits
Sobeck Enterprises, Inc
The Charles J. Stroacker Foundation
Woman’s Life

$1,500–$2,700 DONORS
Jack Barker
Belle Tire
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Matching Gifts Program
Ron Boij
Diane & Cherry Mathew
Chung and Vicky Variotta-Chung
Dennis & Marie Cichon
Christopher Crowley
Alan & Michelle Davis
Genisys Credit Union

$500–$999 DONORS
Jackson High School
Thomas Jakubczak
Beth & Michael Klein
Jeff Kunz
Cindy Lang
Ted Lewis
Marathon Petroleum Company
Michigan Pork Producers Assn.
MidMichigan Medical Center–Midland
P.K. Contracting
POH Regional Medical Center
Power Distributing Company
Priority Health
Richard Brown Foundation
Seth Stamberger
Ernest Szatkowski
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