

#### **Executive Director's Note**

#### Greetings!

As we finish out another school year and embrace the summer months we are incredibly thankful for all of your support! Whether you volunteer, contribute financially, hand out bags at schools or help with so many other critical services, we appreciate that you are part of our community of supporters.

This year we have served more children than ever before. Alleviating food insecurity takes a combined community effort and we are glad that we can count on you to help us with our part of this important service to the children of Champaign County. The need in our community has only increased and we hope you will continue to support our efforts!

During the summer we are providing bags to DREAAM-Rantoul, The Well Experience, Feed the Need in St. Joseph, Healthy Beginnings and several other school programs that continue into the summer. Volunteer opportunities for packing bags, helping with food deliveries and school garden help are listed below.

We are also excited to welcome Chester Brown to our Board of Directors. Chester has volunteered for several years and decided to continue giving back in this meaningful way. If you are interested in continuing with Feeding Our Kids in a volunteer leadership role please reach out!

This fall with mark 10 years of Feeding Our Kids providing weekend food to the children of Champaign County! We will be hosting a celebration event in November to recognize this important milestone. We hope you will join us.

Best,

Alison Dupre Executive Director

## **Number of Bags Served**

Thank you to all of the volunteers who continue to help us out!
Thousands of bags have been packed and delivered to schools. Tens of thousands of pounds of food have been unloaded and stocked at both of our sites. Whether you volunteered once this year or dozens of times we appreciate you!









## **New Board Member**

Feeding Our Kids has recently welcomed a new board member to our organization! Please join us in extending a warm and heartfelt welcome to Chester Brown.

Chester and his family have been involved with FOK for a few years and they have found it to be both an extremely rewarding and worthy way to spend time giving back to their community, particularly in ways that help combat food insecurity in children. As a parent, he knows what it is like to worry about the

welfare of your children and he feels fortunate that his family has been in a position to be able to help others in their own small way.

He teaches at the U of I and lives in Champaign-Urbana with his wife, mother, two girls, and two four-legged boys that love getting dog treats. Welcome to the team!



#### **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP**

This summer food packing will be done at our Hope Center location on specific Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m. You can also sign up for unloading and restocking food. In August we will be at both Champaign Church of Christ and Hope Center.

We welcome volunteers 5 years and up! Click the link to sign up for a volunteer slot. Contact us with any questions.



#### **VOLUNTEER SIGN UP**

#### SUMMER GARDEN VOLUNTEERING

If you love being outdoors and are interested in summer gardening opportunities at local schools click the <u>link!</u> Volunteers will help weed and maintain garden beds. These work days are overseen by each individual school and coordinated with our Director of Nutrition. Feeding Our Kids is proud to support these efforts to make sure kids receive fresh produce in school.



Sam Rice has been volunteering with Feeding Our Kids for over 6 years and has been excited to see the organization grow over time. Sam started out packing bags and then helped with loading bins into cars every other Tuesday during the school

Sam is graduating from Centennial and plans on attending The University of Illinois this fall. He will be playing trombone with the Marching Illini! He enjoys playing and even writing his own music and in his free time he loves to take apart and repair electronics.

Sam has been an integral part of Feeding Our Kids and we are glad that he chose to spend so much of his time giving back to kids in the community. Good luck in the fall Sam and feel free to stop by any time!

#### COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT





Feeding Our Kids sends a heartfelt thank you to Champaign Central's National Honor Society for their thrift sale as well as the Indian Cultural Society for their Taste of India event. The funds raised through their hard work and commitment have helped us continue to provide weekend bags each month.

If your group is interested in fundraising on our behalf please contact us! We would love to work with you.



## **SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT**

Feeding Our Kids wants to spotlight and thank the amazing kindergarten classes at St. Matthew's for their hard work in collecting food donations. Month after month, these young students showed their generosity and kindness by bringing in food items to help other children in need. It's truly inspiring to see young children already making a difference in the world.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

Mark your calendars and get ready to join us in celebrating a significant milestone—Feeding Our Kids' 10th anniversary! It is with great pleasure that we invite you to save the date for an event that will commemorate a decade of fighting childhood hunger and making a difference in our community. Additional details will be sent later this summer.

Date: Sunday, November 5th

Time: 12-2

Location: Holiday Inn, Champaign

# **Thank You to Our Community Partners**

















Donnini Rudolph Family
Foundation



## **CONTACT US**









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