

Community Voices

THANK YOU from the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry

What does hunger look like in our Community?

The most recent Map the Meal Gap study, recently released by Feeding America, indicated that more than 10 percent of people living in the 13 counties of northern Illinois will face hunger sometime this year.

More than 407,000 people in this area report they don't have enough food to live a healthy, active life; about 1 in 5 of those are children.

Additionally, 43% of our hungry neighbors do not qualify for any form of federal assistance; for these folks, the networking of food pantries and feeding programs may be their only source of assistance,.

At the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, we are working hard to serve our hungry neighbors, and we are not doing it alone. In order to solve hunger, it takes a collective voice of the community to raise awareness of the problem, and to put into action the time, talents and resources to work toward a common goal. And with this help, we are making progress.

In 2013, we distributed 32,000 bags of groceries, which means 450,000 pounds of food, serving 20,000 individuals and distributing \$1,200,000 worth of food. Statistics for 2014 are ever increasing.

This simply could not have happened without the dedicated group of over 300 volunteers at the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry who pickup donated food, unload deliveries, work with clients and restock the pantry; the retail partners (Jewel, WalMart, The Fresh Market and Aldi) who take time each and every day to sort through and donate produce, bread, meats and dairy products that would otherwise be thrown away; and the financial support of our most amazing community who unselfishly make monetary commitments and food donations to support our endeavor every year. It is nothing short of a miracle to witness this

collaboration of gifts coming together to work toward our common goal of supporting those in need of food. Together, we can make it happen!

For more information on volunteering, donating or getting involved, please visit our website www.glenellynfoodpantry.org.

Once again, we thank Glen Ellyn and our surrounding communities for your support in helping us reach our goal of Making Hunger History!