Illini Union Office of Volunteer Programs

Issues

Hunger:

“The face of hunger is universal. Hunger affects people of all ages, races and in all communities.”

-www.easternillinoisfoodbank.org

Hunger is an issue affecting communities across the country, and collectively around the world. With the economic crisis in the United States, the numbers of individuals utilizing food pantries and food stamps to feed themselves and their families has drastically increased. Hunger is a growing issue that affects everyone.

According to the Heartland Alliance (2009) report:

- 49 million Americans don’t have enough to eat.
- Over 900,000 Illinoisans rely on food pantries every year.
- 11.9% of Illinois residents live in poverty- 16.7% are at risk of living in poverty.
- In 2008 18.7% of children in Champaign County were living in poverty.
- 663,016 Illinois residents currently rely on food stamps to eat.

National & Local Hunger Agencies

The Feeding America Network

www.Feedingamerica.org

The Feeding America Network is a leading National agency working to eliminate poverty here in the United States. Feeding America Network food banks feed 37 million low-income people annually. They have over 200 foodbanks in all 50 states. These food banks support over 61,000 charitable agencies, and over 70,000 programs contributing over 2.5 billion pounds of food each year to alleviate hunger here in the United States.

Eastern Illinois Foodbank

www.eifoodbank.org

The Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a nonprofit organization licensed to acquire, store, maintain and distribute quantities of food products and essentials to hungry people through a network
of partnership agencies in a 14 county region of eastern Illinois. Their mission is Alleviating hunger . . . Nourishing stronger communities.

Salt & Light

www.saltandlightministry.org

The Salt and Light Ministry is the largest emergency food program in the Champaign Urbana community, serving over 400 families weekly. Salt and Light operates a food pantry in Champaign, Illinois. Salt and Light is a faith based organization spreading the word of Evangelism through their service to the community.

Wesley Evening Food Pantry

www.wesleypantry.org

Located on the University of Illinois campus, the Wesley Food pantry is a non-for profit food pantry housed inside of the Wesley United Methodist Church. This site is supported by the Eastern Illinois Foodbank. Wesley Food pantry is unique in that it allows families to come receive groceries in the evening as opposed to the day, addressing the issue of hunger amongst the working poor.