2017 has become quite a year for the Food Bank of Siouxland! Each month we are astonished at the demand for food across our community. The news will tell the story of an economy doing much better, of unemployment numbers dropping … and yet we are still seeing an upward trend that sets monthly records for distribution and more people seeking food assistance than ever before in our 26 year history. Why? I believe the recession isn’t over for everyone. Underemployment, wages that don’t allow for a balanced budget, medical costs and other expenses are all factors that can tip a family budget over the edge. We expect to distribute over 2.2 million pounds of food in FY 2017 (ending 9/30/2017), which will be a record setter. The double edged sword image still comes to mind: how sad that there are still so many at risk for hunger, but how truly wonderful that so many are able to access the food they need … all thanks to YOU, our partners in feeding our community. Thank you for ALL you do!

As all healthy organizations must, particularly in times of growth as we are currently experiencing, it is important for the Board of Directors to come together to talk about past achievements, review our successes and our challenges, and chart a course for our future. This spring our board and senior staff participated in facilitated sessions to craft a new strategic plan, and great results have come from this work. Three key areas of focus have come from our sessions and committees have been established to continue the work on each topic, again composed of both board members and staff, to work on these strategies. I’d like to share them with you:

- **Secure Sufficient Funding.** It goes without saying that without strong finances, no organization can achieve their goals. In our case, feeding our community is life-saving work. So reviewing our practices, being accountable, seeking both transparency and growth in this arena is essential.

- **Educate and Nourish Siouxland.** Topics include childhood hunger (including but not limited to our BackPack Program: *Food for Kids*); striving to “Meet the Meal Gap,” which is a Feeding America study released each year identifying a “gap” in meals by county in our community; and educating everyone around the challenges of hunger and helping to reduce the stigma around those who visit a food pantry or utilize SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance, formerly known as food stamps).

- **Enhance our Infrastructure.** This team’s work is focused on analyzing our resources and how we use them, including our staff, our building, our equipment, and more.

I’m also excited to share with you that from our Strategic Planning sessions has come a new mission statement, a much more concise way of stating what the Food Bank of Siouxland is all about:

**Leading Siouxland in the fight against hunger.**

What particularly appeals to me about this statement is that this identifies our role as one of leadership, but implies what we know to be true: this fight needs the help and support of many – our agency partners, our volunteers and friends, and our donors. As we’ve said before, we believe that “**Together, we can solve hunger**.”

Linda Scheid, Executive Director
Leader of the Pack: Hunger Games Edition

The 7th Annual “Leader of the Pack” Run/Walk/Bike: Hunger Games Edition celebrated a new date and record-breaking result thanks to many generous supporters. The Saturday, June 24 date brought perfect weather for our runners, walkers, and cyclists to join us in support of our BackPack Program: Food for Kids.

This event raised over $17,000 thanks to the generosity of many including the following sponsors:

HUNGER CONQUEROR: Blue Bunny
HUNGER WARRIOR: Mercy Medical Center
HUNGER CHAMPIONS: Woodhouse Auto Family, Siouxland Cyclists

HUNGER HEROES: Interstate Mechanical, Metal Specialists, Manley & Obbink Chiropractic, Herb & Rosie Kuehne

HUNGER FIGHTERS: Thorpe & Co. Jewellers, CNOS, Liteworks, Siouxland Coin & Jewelery, Ryan & Cari Gehling, Great West Casualty, Primebank

SPECIAL THANKS also to Jetske Wauran from KMEG for covering the event, to Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve for hosting us, to Iowa KidsNet for joining us, to all the runners and individual donors, and to all those who donated food and raffle items including: Scheels, Pepsi Cola of Siouxland, Hy-Vee, Tamme & Paul Saul, Sioux City Explorers, Road ID, Walgreens, Rosenthal Foods, and AmeriGroup.

The Food Bank of Siouxland is very blessed to have so many individuals, foundations, and corporations that give of themselves and their resources to support our mission of fighting hunger in Siouxland. Some of this year’s Hunger Heroes are:

• Community Foundations: Many thanks to Fund for Siouxland, Akron Community Foundation, Ida County Community Betterment Foundation, and Sioux County Community Foundation, all of which are helping to fight hunger through grants made through the Siouxland Community Foundation.
• Morgan Stanley Foundation Produce Capacity Grant through Feeding America which will help us grow our Produce Program through the purchase of equipment for our warehouse.
• Walmart Retail Agency Capacity Grant through Feeding America which will help our partner agencies build their capacity to distribute more in their immediate communities.

September: Hunger Action Month:

September is Hunger Action Month, a month-long campaign to create awareness of the hunger issues, and to mobilize our community in the fight against hunger. Check out the Hunger Action Month calendar on our website (siouxlandfoodbank.org/events/hunger-action-month) to see how you can join us in helping to end hunger. Throughout the month we’ll be asking you to consider the universal feeling of an empty stomach, and how on an empty stomach, we cannot reach our full potential.

Together, We Can Solve Hunger!

Will Golf for Food

Golfing for an important cause

Our 14th Annual “Will Golf for Food” Charity Golf Tournament presented by Blue Bunny and PREMIER Bankcard was held on August 7, 2017. Thanks to the 22 teams participating, many sponsors, generous donors, and amazing volunteers, the event raised over $23,000 for the Food Bank to help fight hunger in Siouxland.

This year’s first place team was Pioneer-Wooldridge Insurance, followed by Cloverleaf (Team #1) in second place, and Tyson Foods (Dakota City) in third place. A fun day was had by all and it felt good to be raising funds to help ensure that no one in our community goes hungry.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

PRESENTING SPONSORS: Blue Bunny & PREMIER Bankcard
GOLF CART SPONSOR: NDC Alpha Dog, Jim & Sherrif Fishback
SCORECARD SPONSOR: Knova’s Carpets
BEVERAGE CART SPONSORS: United HealthCare, Woodhouse Auto Family
PUTTING CONTEST SPONSOR: Hübner Mechanical

HOLE SPONSORS:
Able Homebuilders
AC&R Specialists
American Pop Corn Co.
Bellamy Baking Group
Central Bank
FiberGen
Horn strand Chiropractic
Associates
Jim & Sherriff Fishback
Knollman Appliance
Manley-Obbink Chiropractic
Mercy Medical Center
Mills, ShethHammer, Pautz & Associates
Nor-Arm Cold Storage
Ryen Equipment Company
Rosenthal Foods
Security National Bank
SKY Construction
Southfield Foods, Sioux City
Steve & Ronnie Crary
Sysco Lincoln
Thorpe & Co. Jewellers
Tyson Foods (Dakota City)
Up From the Earth
Wells Fargo Bank
Williams & Company Consulting, Inc.
Zacker & Sons
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**HUNGER HEROES**

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**HOLE SPONSORS:**  
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ACR Specialists  
American Pride Corn Co.  
Bedrock Baking Group  
Central Bank  
FiberGreen  
Heritage Chiropractic  
Horizon Foods  
Iowa Corn  
Kollman Appliance  
Mills, Shellhammer, Puetz & Associates  
Nor-Am Cold Storage  
Power Equipment Company  
Primebank  
Rosenthal Foods  
Security National Bank  
SKY Construction  
Smithfield Foods, Sioux City  
Surf & Bonnie Crary  
Sysco-Lincoln  
Thorp’s Electric Company  
Thorpe & Co. Jewellers  
Tyson Foods (Dakota City)  
Up From the Earth  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Williams & Company Consulting, Inc.  
Zeitner & Sons
Board Member Spotlight

Mark Eganhouse

A leader is someone whose actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more. Joining the board of directors in 2015, Mark immediately made an indelible “mark” on the Food Bank’s present and future efforts to lead Siouxland in the fight against hunger. Serving as president for two of his first three years on the board, he has led our strategic planning efforts, including the adoption of a vision and new mission statement. Always leading by example, Mark participates in all Food Bank fundraisers and projects, volunteers with our BackPack Program: Food for Kids, and gives generously of his time, talents, and treasures. Mark has not only been a dedicated board member and volunteer for the Food Bank, his wife, Brenda, also chairs the efforts to make our Empty Bowls silent auction a great success.

Mark grew up on a farm in Iowa and graduated with an Agricultural degree from Iowa State University. He currently leads the Wells Blue Bunny Supply Chain team as Vice President. He has 31 years in the foodservice industry and over 19 years of leadership experience. In his limited spare time, he enjoys mentoring others in the food industry and spending time with family, friends, and golfing.

We thank you, Mark, for inspiring our board members and staff to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more.

Leave a Message Siouxland

The Food Bank of Siouxland is partnering with Leave a Message Siouxland to inform and inspire donors to consider including a gift to charity in their estate plans. Naming the Food Bank of Siouxland as the beneficiary of a planned estate gift is a way to join us in the fight against hunger. A gift through your will, insurance policies, or other planned giving options, is a way to make a legacy gift that will touch the lives of so many hungry children, families, and elderly people in Siouxland.

14th Annual “Empty Bowls” Fundraiser Auction, Dinner, and Hunger Awareness Event

Friday, February 2, 2018 at the Delta Hotel Center, South Sioux City Riverfront (formerly the Marina Inn Conference Center)

Tickets are limited and go on sale Thursday, December 13, 2017. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. To reserve your seats/tables (after 12/13), become a sponsor, or donate to the auction, please call or email Development Director Jennifer Hart at 712-255-9741 or Jennifer@siouxlandfoodbank.org.

“Celebrate Our Friends Day” – a way to thank those who consistently go above and beyond and the presentation of our annual “Legacy Award” at 4pm on Tuesday, September 19, at the Food Bank of Siouxland. RSVP by calling 712-255-9741.