

FOOD WASTE IN THE U.S. IS...

EXCESSIVE

40%
OF ALL FOOD PRODUCED IN THE U.S. IS WASTED

133 BILLION POUNDS
Food wasted per year. That represents 1,249 calories per person, per day.

EXPENSIVE

\$161 BILLION
Uneaten food at retailers, restaurants, and homes costs \$161 billion annually

\$1,500
Per capita, this amounts to over \$1,500 for a family of four

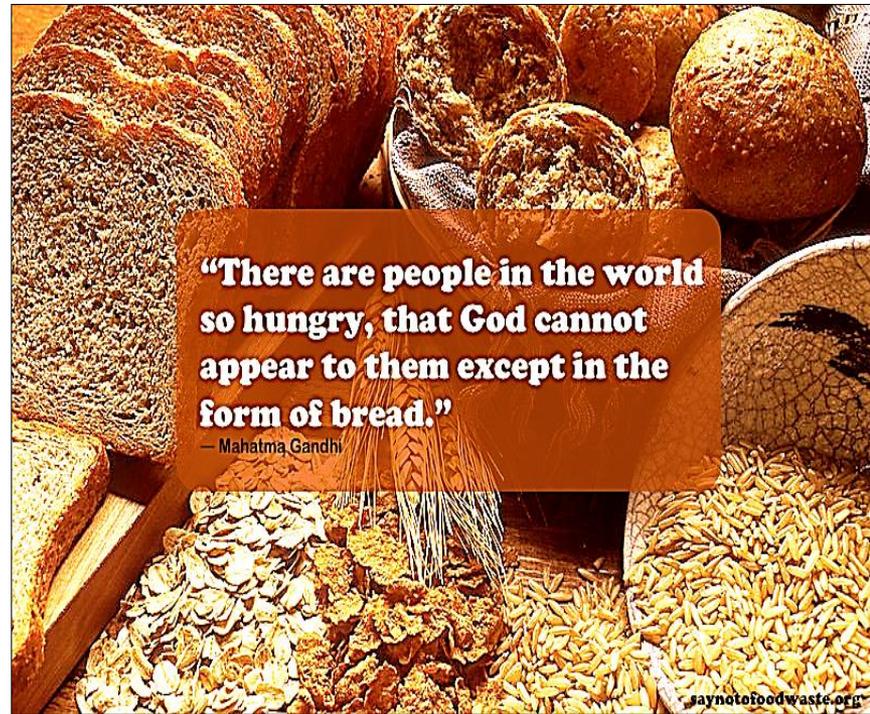
ENVIRONMENTALLY HARMFUL

Food makes up 20% of landfill weight—the single largest municipal waste source

CH₄
The methane released by food is a greenhouse gas 21 times more powerful than carbon dioxide

An Opportunity: Is your local grocery, restaurant, school, farmer donating unsold, unused food to your local food pantry instead of dumping in the trash? By diverting 15% of food destined for the dumpster, we could cut the number of food insecure Americans in half.

Info: Food Waste Reduction Alliance
fwra@gmaonline.org



SEPTEMBER IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH.

Nothing runs on empty.

Is your Church promoting September as Hunger Action Month? Lots of great ideas at feedingamerica.org



Food for Thought

brought to you by the Illinois South Conference Hunger Action Team

Instead of our usual after lunch candy, today we bring you “food for thought.”



What can you do on an empty stomach?

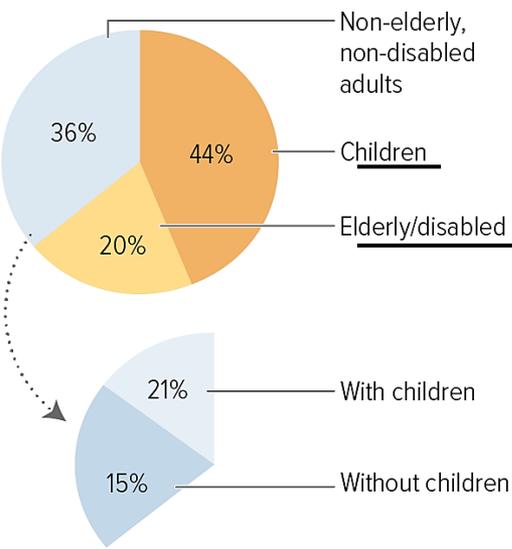
ISC Hunger Action Fund has available grants for ISC UCC – supported food missions. Contact Margie Lindhorst: mlind@htc.net 618-281-4090



Organizations with numerous food resources serving Illinois



Close to Two-Thirds of SNAP Recipients Are Children, Elderly, or Disabled



Source: CBPP tabulations of USDA 2015 SNAP household characteristics data.

CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

Growing Senior Hunger

The size of the U.S. senior population is growing at a rate of 10,000 each day.
 2007: 44 million
 2017: 70.5 million
 5.5 million food insecure
 2050: Predict 104 million
 8 million food insecure

Nearly 5 million households with a senior receive, on average, **\$124/month** Snap (foodstamps) benefits.

Only 2 in 5 Snap – eligible seniors are enrolled.

For more info about SNAP, contact your local U of I SNAP Educator at your U of I Extension Office.

Peek Inside the Backpack Feeding Millions of Kids This Weekend

October 18, 2019 by Paul Morello at feedingamerica.org



It's Friday and all your classmates are itching to get the weekend started. Just waiting for that last bell to ring. They're already making plans – some are going to the movies, some are planning get-togethers. Everyone is doing something different. They're all thrilled about getting away from school.

But you're not. You know when the weekend starts, you won't be eating free lunch (and maybe breakfast) at school. And since your parents can't always afford food, you're worried about what you'll eat on Saturday and Sunday. Because it might be nothing.

For many of the 22 million kids who eat free or reduced-price meals at school and preschool/daycare, worrying about what they'll eat on the weekend - when they don't have access to school meals – is a reality. The Backpack program works with schools to provide those students with pre-packaged bags of healthy, easy-to-prepare food to make sure they have enough to eat on Saturday and Sunday.

Make a child's heart sing - - make your heart sing ... help with your church's or community's Backpack Mission. If there isn't one, contact ISC – UCC Hunger Action Team to learn how to start one today.

Your local food pantry needs donated food, volunteers for the pantry and drivers to pick-up donated food.



Encourage your food mission leaders to attend the **Metro-East Food Pantry Coalition** sponsored by U of I Extension. Contact: kgalati@Illinois.edu

