

**River Bend Mobile Food Pantry in
conjunction with Muscatine Community
School District**

Volunteer Coordinators are:
Jeff Keith and Laura Koch





School Pantries:

- The mission of the Mobile Food Pantry Program is to help solve child hunger by providing nutritious food to children and their families in convenient, familiar and safe locations.
- By working with community partners, food banks and school administrators set up on-site food pantries, that are convenient for students and their families to access throughout the school year and during school breaks.
- By locating pantries inside or near schools, students and their families have easier access to food assistance and feel more comfortable in accessing this assistance.
- The School Pantry Program generally distributes fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy, shelf-stable items, and protein items, such as frozen meats.



What is Hunger and Food Insecurity

1 in 8 people and 1 in 6 Children are food insecure in our service area.
Food Insecure. [“Who is Hungry - Who we Serve”](#)

Hunger Vs. Food Insecurity

Hunger – Personal, physical feeling and discomfort of being Hungry.

Vs.

Food Insecurity – not knowing where the next meal is coming from, the lack of access to nutritionally adequate food.



RIVER BEND MOBILE FOOD PANTRY WITH MUSCATINE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

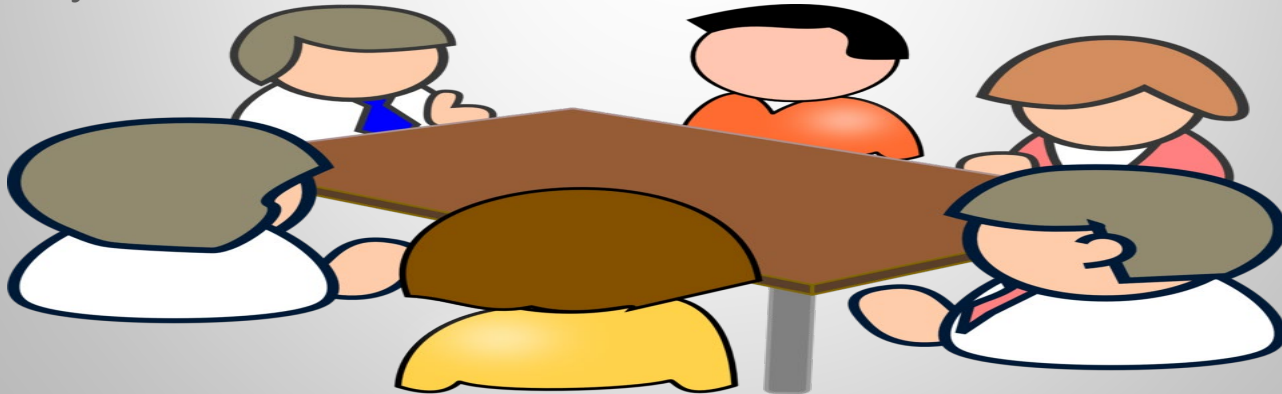
The Muscatine School District partnered with the River Bend Foodbank in November of 2018. A Muscatine community member made a donation to the River Bend Foodbank for the purpose of supporting a mobile food pantry for those families with students in the school system.





How it began

Diane Erickson, River Bend Representative, and Nichole Sorgenfrey, United Way Representative arranged a meeting with Jeff Keith and Laura Koch. The idea and the donation was there, they needed volunteers from the schools to take on the project. The site of the first Mobile Food Pantry was at Muscatine High School but has since moved to the Muscatine Administrative building and is continued to be organized by volunteers Jeff Keith and Laura Koch.





At the Beginning

When it was housed in the automotive car bays at MHS, the customers stood outside and circulated as the Pantry Volunteers pushed carts, loaded groceries and escorted patrons to their cars to unload the groceries for the patron. The Pantry served 150 clients a month. As the community became more aware of the Pantry the numbers increased and the Pantry moved to the School Board Office. Our client list grew from 150 to 225 and eventually to 335 clients per month. Since Covid-19, we have a pull-up service.



Numbers Helped

We have served **312,559 lbs** of food.

We have provided **260,465 meals** to those in need in the community.

We have served **4693 families** over **22 months**

Which is an average of **210 families** a month

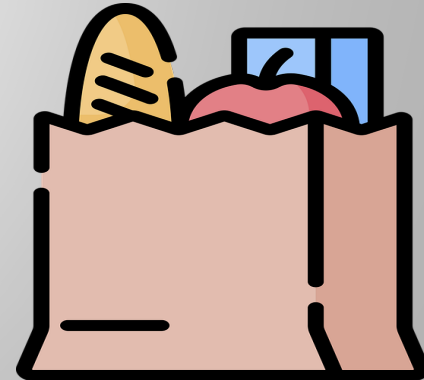




Food Items

Food Items vary every month. We have served items such as: eggs, milk, meat (tenderloins, pork roast, sausage patties, chicken legs/breasts), fresh vegetables, fruits, cereals, pasta sauce, noodles, raisins, beans, pasta noodles, juice, canned soups, canned fruits, etc...

We also have items donated from a variety of local grocery stores and convenience stores. These items include bread, buns, muffins, burritos, hamburgers, chicken nuggets, pies, cookies, pizza, etc...





Volunteers

We love to have volunteers!

When: 2nd Tuesday of the month

Time: 4:00 to 6:00

Where: MCSD Administration Office - 2900 Mulberry

You can email:

Jeff Keith at jeff.keith@mcsdonline.org

Laura Koch at laura.koch@mcsdonline.org

Distribution Day and Time

Distribution is the 2nd Tuesday of the month

from 4:30 - 6:00

MCSD Administration Building

2900 Mulberry

We want to give a big shout -out to the
volunteers who make this possible every month!

Thank you Volunteers!!

Muskie Locker

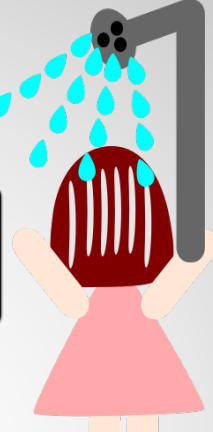
The Muskie Locker was created by Allison Anson and a group of teachers who wanted to help students in need of school supplies, food and clothing. This idea and the hard work of the founders made it happen. A Muskie Locker was created at the junior high school and MHS. The 2 lockers are run by volunteer organizers and operators Jeff Keith and Laura Koch. They spend their time collecting donations, purchasing items, and packing bags.

Muskie Locker

What does it offer?

The Muskie Locker offers clothes, shoes, school supplies such as notebooks, pencils, pens, paper, binders, highlighters, etc.. Also the locker offers weekend bags of food for the student. Many students go home to an empty cupboard. Weekend bags consist of a variety of items such as: mac n cheese, cereal, granola bars, soup, canned fruit and vegetable, pasta, pasta sauce, crackers, peanut butter and jelly, etc...Dried food items that can be safely stored in the cupboard and can be cooked in the microwave or do not need to be cooked at all. The bags are for the student and not the family. Each child in the family can sign up for a weekend bag.

Personal Hygiene Items



Food Items

Canned soups

Mac n Cheese

Canned vegetables

Canned fruit

n cheese

Breakfast bars

Crackers

Peanut Butter

Jelly

Cups of

Cereal

Boxed mac

Fruit Cups

ANY DRIED FOODS AND ANY

**THANK YOU TO THE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR
SUPPORT!! ALL OF YOUR PAST AND FUTURE
DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

**THANK YOU TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR
SUPPORTING THE LOCKERS and PANTRY**

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

