



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Northern Illinois Food Bank Receives Grant from Stateline Community Foundation**  
*Support Enables Continued Food Distributions at School-Based Pantry in South Beloit*

(GENEVA, IL – March 2, 2022) – [Northern Illinois Food Bank](#) is pleased to announce it has received a \$3,000 grant from the Stateline Community Foundation. These funds will be used to support the SOBO Food Pantry at Blackhawk Elementary School in South Beloit School District 320.



The SOBO Food Pantry provides food to individuals and families in South Beloit, averaging 40 families at each distribution. During times of the greatest need, such as holidays, the pantry has served up to 200 families.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, SOBO has maintained its schedule of being open for two hours on two days every month. Currently, families are invited to walk into the pantry so they can choose the food they need. The pantry also provides home delivery for those with limited access.

“Thank you so much, Stateline Community Foundation and Northern Illinois Food Bank, for supporting us,” said Rachel Blomquist, MSW, School Social Worker at South Beloit School District 320. “Having the food pantry at one of our schools ensures food is accessible for families and children at risk of hunger.”

“We’re grateful for the support of Stateline Community Foundation,” said Yvette Sellers, the Food Bank’s Agency Relations Area Leader for Winnebago County. “About 69 percent of children in the South Beloit area are identified as living below the federal poverty rate, and SOBO Food Pantry provides critical food assistance to those families.”

Food at the pantry includes cereals, milk, eggs, cheese, fresh produce, meats, pasta, rice, soups and healthy canned meals, snacks and personal care items. During the holidays, SOBO provides turkeys and hams through a drive-through distribution to avoid congestion and keep neighbors and volunteers safe.

The Stateline Community Foundation annually awards grants through a competitive application and review process. For more information, visit <https://statelinecf.org>.

For information about Food Bank initiatives, visit [SolveHungerToday.org](https://SolveHungerToday.org).

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## **ABOUT STATELINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

[The Stateline Community Foundation](#) is proud to stand as the region's leading resource for information about charitable giving and community needs. Since our inception in 1986, The Stateline Community Foundation has helped public-spirited citizens find ways to address community problems. The funds we manage now number in the millions. Through them, our donors support numerous organizations and serve a variety of extraordinary causes. Our donors and funds all share a common purpose: to make the Wisconsin, Illinois Stateline region a better place to live, work and play.

## **ABOUT NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK**

Our vision at [Northern Illinois Food Bank](#) is for everyone in Northern Illinois to have the food they need to thrive. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and proud member of [Feeding America](#), we serve our neighbors in 13 counties with dignity, equity and convenience, providing 250,000 meals a day. We bring together manufacturers, local and corporate grocers, area farmers, corporations, foundations and individuals who donate food and funding, and each week nearly 1,000 volunteers help us evaluate, repack and distribute food. We also proudly partner with more than 900 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and youth and senior feeding programs to provide nutritious food and resources. Our distribution centers are located in Geneva, Park City, Rockford and Joliet. Find out how you can [get help](#), [volunteer](#), [donate](#) or [get involved](#) at [SolveHungerToday.org](#), or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

*Photos Available*

**For media interviews or photos:**

Jennifer Clark at [jennifer.clark@northernifoodbank.org](mailto:jennifer.clark@northernifoodbank.org)