



Northern Illinois Food Bank and DoorDash's Project DASH Announce Milestone of 100,000 Deliveries of Charitable Food

Home delivery removes barriers for neighbors in need - 82 percent of anti-hunger organizations reported they plan to continue offering home delivery

GENEVA, IL (November 13, 2023) - [Northern Illinois Food Bank](#), the leading hunger relief organization serving 13 counties in rural and suburban Northern Illinois, and DoorDash celebrated 100,000 deliveries of charitable food to neighbors experiencing food insecurity, as a part of Northern Illinois Food Bank's partnership with DoorDash's [Project DASH](#).

Since May 2021, Northern Illinois Food Bank has partnered with Project DASH, DoorDash's initiative to empower food banks, food pantries, and social impact organizations to leverage DoorDash local delivery to increase access in their communities, to power the delivery of charitable food in a way that emphasizes convenience and dignity for its clients in and around Northern Illinois. .

"Today's milestone of 100,000 deliveries holds major significance. By partnering with DoorDash, we've been able to increase the capacity for our program and offer home delivery much more efficiently than would otherwise be possible," said Julie Yurko, President and CEO at Northern Illinois Food Bank. "We're proud to provide our neighbors with the ability to choose and order their groceries online through the [My Pantry Express Program](#) and we're incredibly grateful that our partnership with Project DASH has allowed us to reach more community members than ever before."

"DoorDash is honored to celebrate 100,000 deliveries that have broadened food access in partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank," said Daniel Riff, Senior Manager, Drive Government and Nonprofit DoorDash. "Home delivery helps break down transportation and other barriers for seniors, immunocompromised people, and people who may not be able to make it to a food bank during their traditional hours for a variety of reasons. We're especially proud to power delivery for My Pantry Express via Project DASH to provide nutritious food and resources to the community in a way that emphasizes convenience and dignity."

Since 2018, Project DASH has powered more than 5 million deliveries of an estimated 80 million meals across the U.S. and Canada. Project DASH's impact on broadening food access is powered by the work of its partners. This September, the [Urban Institute](#) released a report, [Connecting People with Charitable Food through New Home Delivery Partnerships](#), studying the effectiveness of Project DASH home delivery partnerships. The report, supported by DoorDash, analyzed data from partners, including Northern Illinois Food Bank, and found that Project DASH has helped alleviate organizational capacity challenges in implementing home delivery, reduced

stigma, enhanced convenience for clients by connecting hard-to-reach populations with charitable food, and expanded the communities anti-hunger organizations served. The Urban Institute [also examined](#) how online ordering via Northern Illinois Food Bank's My Pantry Express is removing barriers to access.

The report found that more than 90 percent of surveyed anti-hunger organizations reported that partnering with DoorDash allowed them to build capacity for services they otherwise would not be able to offer. Northern Illinois Food Bank was able to more than double the capacity for their program through its DoorDash partnership—growing from serving about 800 households per week to 1,800 households. In March 2023, Northern Illinois Food Bank and United Way of Greater McHenry County were able to secure \$50,000 in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act to subsidize delivery fees for deliveries of charitable food to the community. That funding has been extended through 2026. Sustained funding is crucial to continue and expand home delivery of charitable food. 82 percent of anti-hunger organizations reported that they plan to continue offering home delivery to clients in the future, although funding is crucial to ensuring the sustainability of home delivery (96.6 percent).

For those looking to support Northern Illinois Food Bank, you can donate [here](#). Every \$1 donated can provide \$8 worth of groceries for a neighbor in need. For organizations that want to expand food access via home delivery through Project DASH, please email projectdash@doordash.com.

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About DoorDash

DoorDash (NYSE: DASH) is a technology company that connects consumers with their favorite local businesses in more than 25 countries across the globe. Founded in 2013, DoorDash builds products and services to help businesses innovate, grow, and reach more customers. DoorDash is building infrastructure for local commerce, enabling merchants to thrive in the convenience economy, giving consumers access to more of their communities, and providing work that empowers. With DoorDash, there is a neighborhood of good in every order.

About Northern Illinois Food Bank

For the past 40 years, Northern Illinois Food Bank has been dedicated to solving hunger and empowering neighbors. 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, Lake Forest, 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](#).