Let’s Fix Dinner

A Recipe To Close The Meal Gap

The Meal Gap In Northeast Iowa

The Meal Gap is our official measure of food insecurity. It represents the missing meals from the homes of individuals and families who could use our services — that is, when household food budgets fall too short to secure adequate, nutritious food year-round. Factors like poverty and local food costs determine how big the Meal Gap is. Since the Meal Gap can be identified, we can see where hunger lives.

Who Is Left?

Though the Meal Gap will never truly disappear, due to poverty, aging populations, economic uncertainty, and job loss, we aim to fill the Meal Gap by 2025. We need to do this so that we have the capacity to serve anyone who will face these issues. In order to do so we must serve an additional 2 million meals annually.

We Are So Close!

Since 1981 we have been helping families out of the Meal Gap by providing a community solution to the meal shortages that our neighbors of northeast Iowa face. Let’s continue the progress that we have made, let’s create a better future, and Let’s Fix Dinner.
Every recipe comes to life with its special ingredients. At the Food Bank, we rely on the support of our volunteers and our donors to feed our 16 county service area. Without you, we would not have gotten this far. With you, we will close the Meal Gap by 2025.

Serving sizes exist so you can scale your recipe. We have an estimated 48,000 food insecure neighbors in northeast Iowa. To feed them all, we must provide an additional 2 million meals annually, on top of the 8 million meals that we currently distribute. We need to fix that, so Let’s Fix Dinner.

The right utensils allow us to use our ingredients efficiently. These utensils ensure that the recipe can be completed. Improving infrastructure, maintaining compliance, and utilizing technology are all ways in which we prepare this recipe. To close the Meal Gap by 2025 our utensils must be efficient, as well as a priority.
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Northeast Iowa FOOD BANK

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