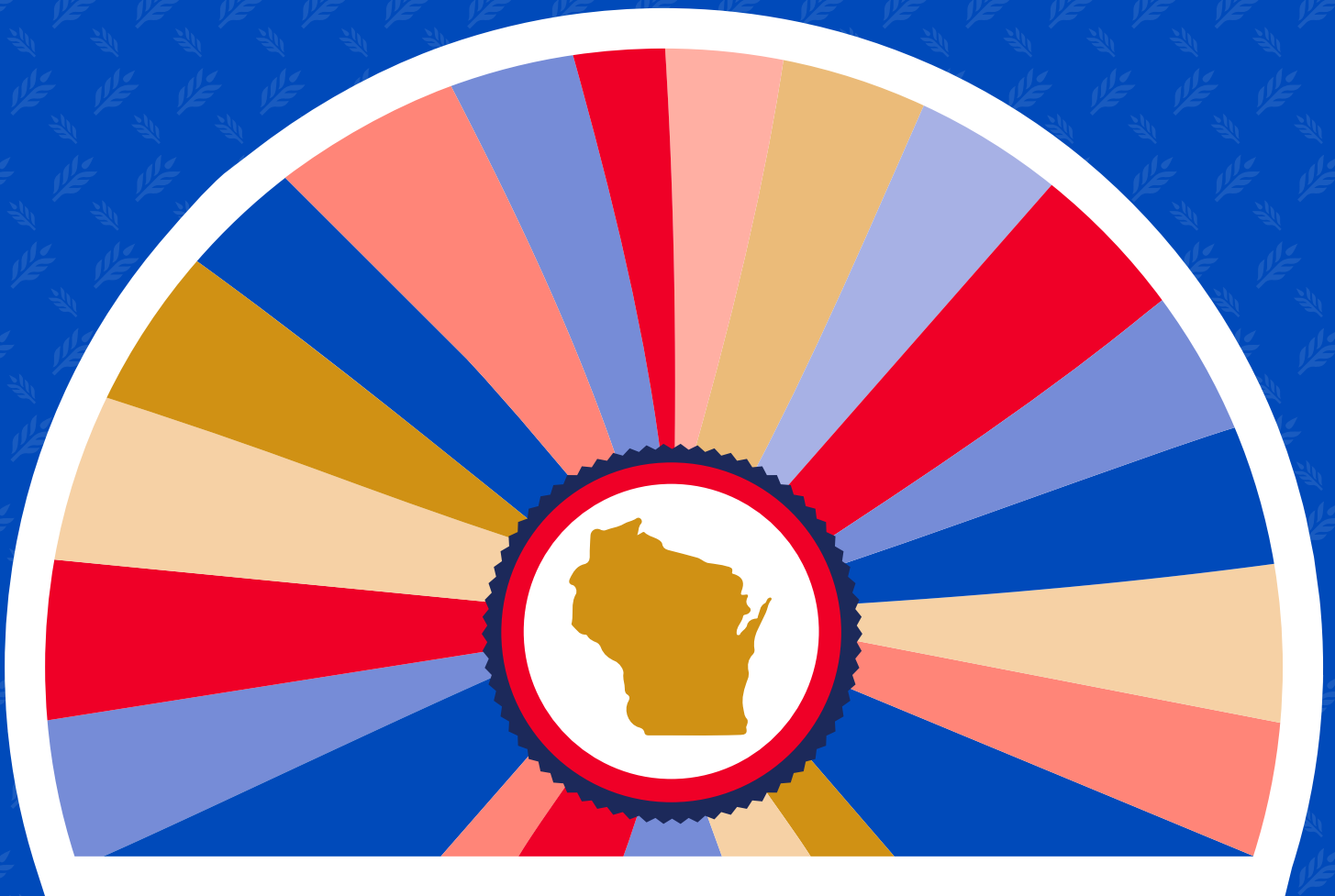
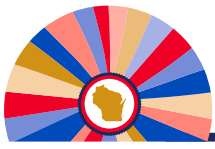


HUNGER RELIEF FEDERATION SUMMIT 2024

CONNECTING WISCONSIN

— Bridging Communities for —
Collective Growth & Resilience





Summit Programs & Sessions

Thursday, October 3

Welcome and Introduction

Matt King, CEO, Hunger Task Force

Member Highlight: Central Rivers Farmshed

Ann Vang, Executive Director, Central Rivers Farmshed

Based in Stevens Point, Central Rivers Farmshed focuses on growing a resilient local food economy. Their organization partners with family and cooperatively owned farms and local food businesses throughout the region to expand programs, ensuring the choice for healthy, locally grown foods, and that more farm-to-table farms and small food-based businesses thrive in central Wisconsin. Ann Vang, Executive Director, will share about Central Rivers Farmshed in this compelling opening presentation for the Summit.

Presentation: The Federation and the Road Ahead

Brandon Savage, Hunger Relief Federation Manager

Mark Lisowski, Hunger Relief Federation Organizer

Join us for an in-depth presentation showcasing the impactful work of the Hunger Relief Federation of Wisconsin over the past two years and our strategic vision for the future. As a coalition of anti-hunger organizations committed to ending hunger in Wisconsin, we've engaged in grassroots advocacy, and spearheaded lobbying efforts to influence state policy. This session will highlight our legislative agenda, emphasizing key victories and ongoing campaigns. We will also discuss how we continue to support our membership through resource sharing and collaborative initiatives. This presentation aims to inspire and empower pantry coordinators and volunteers by sharing best practices, innovative strategies, and a unified vision for a hunger-free Wisconsin.

Panel: Building Stronger Nutrition Policy

Donna Ambrose, Executive Director, The Neighbors' Place

Monica Clare, Executive Director, St. Joseph Food Program

Michael Jonas, Food Bank Director, Hunger Task Force

In this dynamic and insightful panel, we will explore the critical role of nutrition policy in enhancing the effectiveness of food pantries. Our expert panelists will address key issues, including how food pantries can ensure that culturally diverse communities receive foods that meet their dietary preferences and needs. We will also delve into successful examples of food pantries and organizations that have implemented effective nutrition policies, highlighting lessons learned and best practices.

Panel: Stories from Around the State

Sharon Pomaville, Executive Director, Sharing Center

Bill Grammer, Pantry Director, Northwoods Community Food Pantry

Shelly Fortner, Executive Director, The Hunger Task Force of La Crosse

Discover inspiring stories and practical insights from pantry directors who have successfully advanced their programs and missions. This panel will delve into the strategies and practices that have enabled food pantries to thrive and make a significant impact in their communities. Designed for pantry coordinators and volunteers, this session will offer valuable lessons and actionable takeaways.

Speaker: What We're Hungry For – A Conversation with Jim Winship

Jim Winship has focused his filmmaking largely on the stories of rural communities. His film, *What We're Hungry For*, is no exception. Documenting the response of five local Wisconsin food pantries to the unprecedented needs created by the coronavirus pandemic, the film tells the story of the hard work, ingenuity, and compassion of these organizations while also exploring the complex and longstanding challenges of fighting hunger in rural America. Jim Winship joins the Hunger Relief Federation to share the process in documenting this story, share clips with Summit attendees, and discuss with participants the lessons we learned during the pandemic.

Panel: Beyond the Food Box: Resources and Services

Amber Daugs, CEO & Founder, Grow It Forward

Liz Kroll, Senior Director of Programs and Community Impact, Sheboygan County Food Bank

Barbara Mendoza, Director, Shawano Area Food Center; Founder, Flo'ing with Kindness

This panel discussion will focus on the vital role of food pantries in addressing the broader needs of clients beyond food insecurity. Our expert panelists will share their experiences and strategies for identifying specific needs and connecting clients with essential resources such as housing, employment, healthcare, and more. Designed for pantry coordinators and volunteers, this session aims to enhance your ability to provide holistic support to those you serve.

Presentation: Food Sourcing and the Local Connection

Sarah Bressler, Farm Manager, Hunger Task Force

Kyle Buehner, Food Procurement Manager, Hunger Task Force

Discover the transformative power of partnering with local farms to enhance food distribution efforts and combat hunger in Wisconsin. This presentation will delve into the practicalities of working with local farms, setting realistic expectations, and creating mutually beneficial transactions. We will share insights from our own farm operations and highlight successful partnerships with other farms across the state. Additionally, we will explore effective distribution models and best practices for growing and distributing fresh produce.

Speakers: The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

Katie Kracht, WI LFPA Program Coordinator, Division of Agricultural Development

April Yancer, Farm to School and Institution Program Specialist, Division of Agricultural Development

The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is a pivotal partner of Hunger Task Force. They will join the Federation Summit to share about their work, resources, and how they partner with anti-hunger organizations across Wisconsin.

Speakers: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Merdis Hudson, Child Nutrition Programs, United States Department of Agriculture

Stevey Poppe, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, United States Department of Agriculture

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) plays a crucial role in supporting the nation's food security through the administration of key federal nutrition programs. We are honored to host two distinguished USDA representatives, Stevey Poppe and Merdis Hudson, at our Summit this year. Together, they will provide valuable insights into the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), their implementation and the impact of these critical programs. Their presentation will explore the role of these programs in the broader fight against hunger and additional contexts around federal nutrition programming. Their presentation will be followed by Q&A with attendees.

Evening Social Hour

 **Friday, October 4** 

Presentation: "From the Farm to the Fork: Nueske's Working with the Federation"

Nueske's, a renowned family-owned meat producer with deep roots in Wisconsin, partnered with Hunger Task Force to supply high quality meats to low-income households across the state through the Badger Box program. Through this partnership, Nueske's supported efforts to improve food security, offering nutritional options to families in need. At this year's Summit, Nueske's will share insights into their history and role in hunger relief.

Panel: Strength and Sustainability: Growing and Adapting to Changing Needs

Patrick Boyle, Executive Director, Sheboygan County Food Bank

Tamarra Coleman, Executive Director, Shalom Center

Mike Egly, Director of Program Services, The FOOD Pantry Serving Waukesha County

In this crucial panel discussion, we will explore strategies for enhancing the sustainability and strength of food pantries within our network. Our expert panelists will share innovative approaches and programs that have proven effective in increasing efficiency and effectiveness in serving communities. This session is designed for pantry directors, coordinators, and volunteers who are committed to ensuring the long-term success of their organizations.

Presentation: Recruitment and Growth: Best Practices in Fundraising, Development and Volunteer Programming

Jonathan Hansen, Chief Strategy Officer, Hunger Task Force

Herb Reichelt, Giving Manager, Hunger Task Force

Unlock the secrets to effective fundraising, donor engagement, and volunteer management in this comprehensive presentation tailored for pantry coordinators and volunteers. Learn proven strategies for raising funds, targeting new and existing donors, and building lasting relationships with supporters. We will also explore best practices for recruiting, training, and retaining a dedicated volunteer base, including both individual and corporate volunteers. Additionally, discover how to harness the power of social media to promote your pantry's mission, recruit volunteers, and drive fundraising efforts.

Member Highlight: The Neighbors' Place

Donna Ambrose, Executive Director, The Neighbors' Place

Federation partner and Wausau-based The Neighbors' Place shares about their primary goal: to be "People Helping People." Founded in 1989 by a coalition of area church groups, The Neighbors' Place works to address food insecurity and poverty through their pantry, food deliveries, and Babies' Place, serving the families of hundreds of children. Join Executive Director Donna Ambrose for a compelling presentation about their work in Marathon County.

Closing Statements and the Agenda for Action

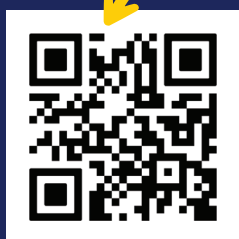
Brandon Savage, Hunger Relief Federation Manager

Reno Wright, Advocacy Director, Hunger Task Force

Adjournment

***Optional Tour of Central Rivers Farmshed in downtown Stevens Point**

We partner with family and cooperatively owned farms and local food businesses throughout the region to ensure everyone in our community can choose healthy and delicious food; Provide fun ways to enjoy food grown in central Wisconsin throughout the year; Demonstrate growing practices that are good for our water and soil; Launch new businesses and encourage all businesses to source ingredients locally." Join Federation members for a personal tour of one of our local members and see the work they're doing firsthand.



**Voices
Against
Hunger**



HUNGER TASK FORCE

USE YOUR VOICE! Join Voices Against Hunger.

Voices Against Hunger is Hunger Task Force's citizen advocacy group.

The goal of Voices Against Hunger is simple: Advocate together to promote social policies to end future hunger. Joining Voices Against Hunger is a quick, impactful way you can influence effective anti-hunger public policy.

Stay up-to-date on the most urgent anti-hunger campaigns that matter to you and learn how to take easy action to fight hunger in your community.

www.HungerTaskForce.org/VOICES