



It's about more than food.

The face of hunger.

What does it look like? The senior next door? The mom holding down two jobs? Someone who's fallen on hard times? A veteran or college graduate? It's all of these.

Food insecurity exists right here in eastern Illinois—and each person's story is unique.



Eastern Illinois
FOODBANK



Terri's story.

Terri Daniels was a working mother of two when she visited her first food pantry.

"It's about more than food, it's about hope. When you're worried about feeding your children, it's hard to think about anything else. I planned, I worked hard, yet that's where I found myself—working a job that barely paid the bills with nothing left over to buy food. My self-confidence was all but lost. It was difficult to visualize a better, hopeful future.

"When I finally accepted help through the Eastern Illinois Foodbank, I found out I wasn't alone. The support I received lifted the weight off my shoulders and helped me take the first steps in building a hope-filled future for my family.

"One step led to another and I gained the confidence to apply for a better job, then another. I even went back to school in the hopes of giving back to the organization that helped me and my family on this new path.

"I wouldn't be where I am today without the support of the Eastern Illinois Foodbank."

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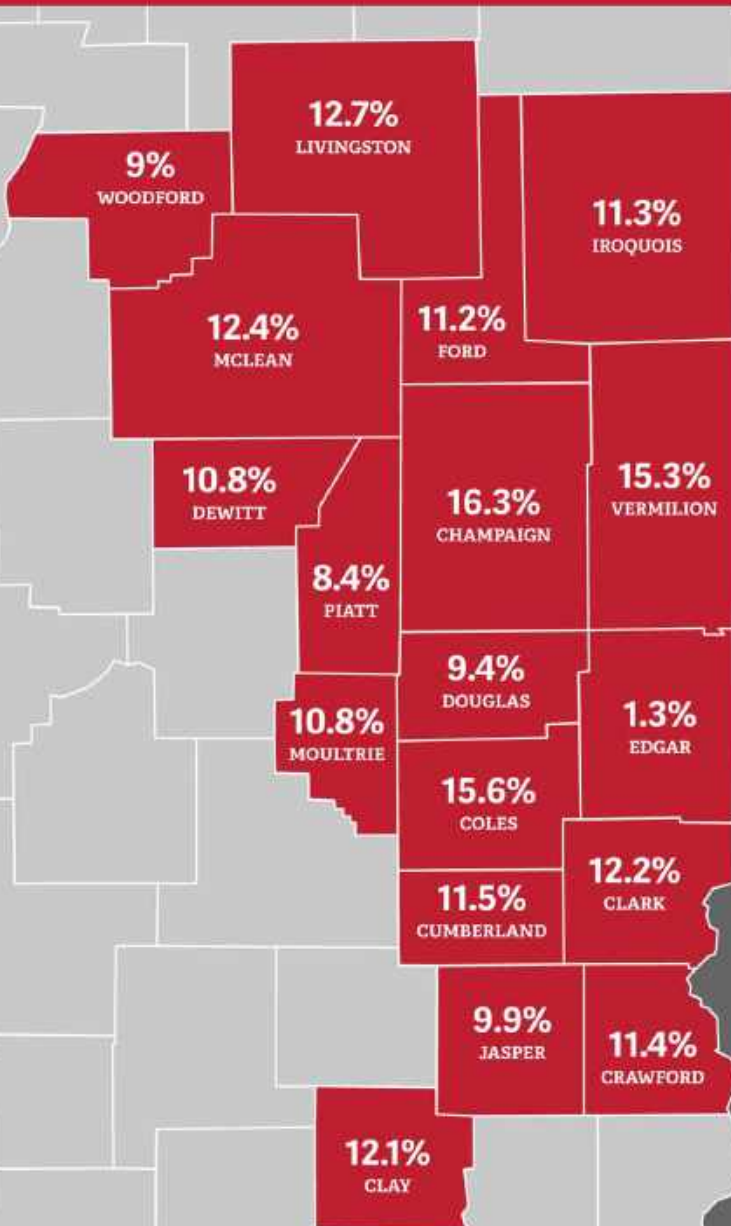
Terri is still a working mother of two. She’s also a veteran, master’s-degree student and employee of the University of Illinois, and a proud member of the Eastern Illinois Foodbank Board of Directors.

Feeling hungry and hopeless aren't the only consequences of food insecurity.

It has negative health outcomes for both kids and adults. Food-insecure children are more likely to incur developmental delays, struggle in school, suffer from anemia, or be hospitalized.

"Because food insecurity in children can have both immediate and potentially life-long health effects, we partner with Eastern Illinois Foodbank to make emergency food available for our families."

—Nancy Greenwalt, Executive Director of Promise Healthcare, operating Frances Nelson and SmileHealthy



There are now

105,627

people facing food insecurity in the counties we currently serve.*

*Most recent data reported from Heartland Alliance annual poverty report.



We work to create a hunger-free eastern Illinois.

The Foodbank accepts thousands of pounds of food each month from distributors, manufacturers, and retailers. As the primary resource of food for local pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens, we've been a vital resource for those living with food insecurity in eastern Illinois for the past three decades.

While we're feeding 58,000 people a month, we're meeting only half the need. And although canned and frozen food has historically been more readily available, handling and distributing fresh food is a harder task.

How do we put healthy and nutritious food in the hands of more people like Terri and her family?

"Everyone, no matter their circumstances, has a fundamental right to eat. We live in a land of incredible plenty—it's not a matter of depriving any of us to provide for all. This just seems so basic."

—Joan Friedman, EIF donor and volunteer

Here's what's holding us back.

- Limited freezer and refrigeration space
- A single loading dock
- Lack of space to accommodate the additional volunteers we need
- Short-term solutions that aren't entirely efficient

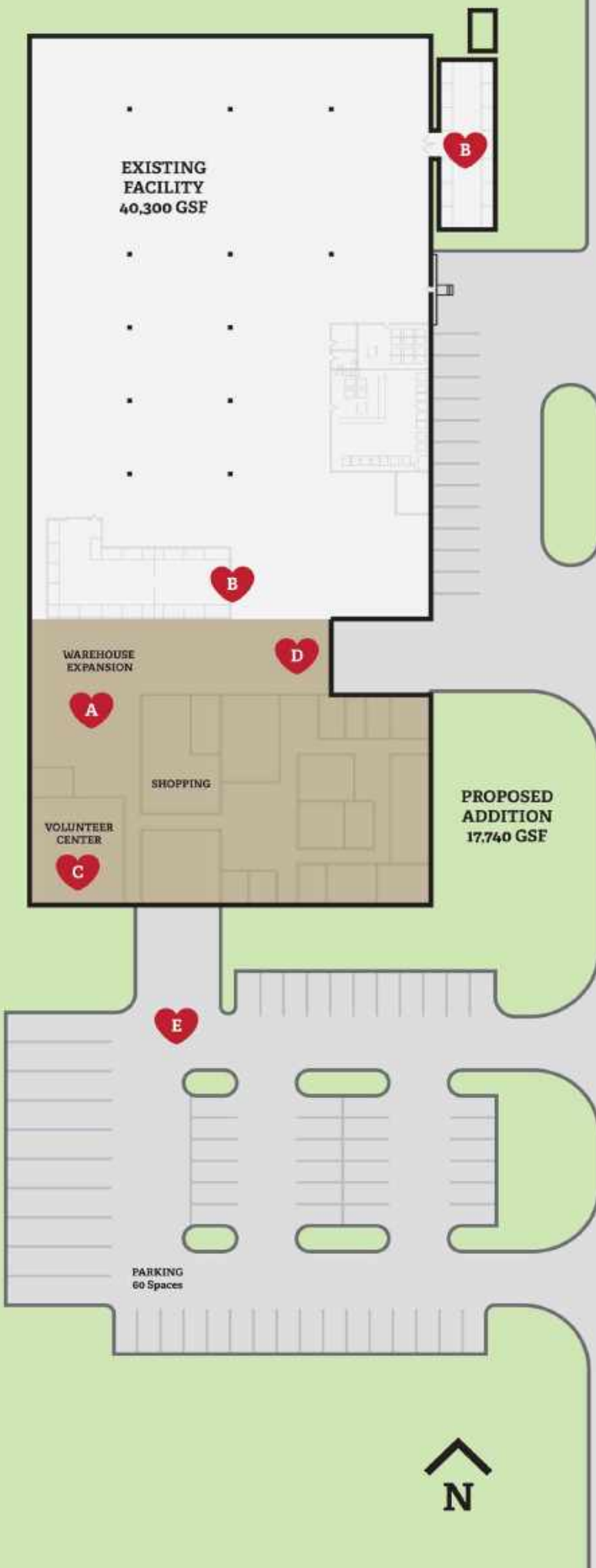
♥ But we have a vision, and it will carry us into the future.



The needs of our community and neighbors demand that we grow.

Our 39,000-square-foot facility has reached its limit in both size and suitability. With an additional 18,000 square feet of warehouse space, we'll be able to increase our efficiency and extend the number people we serve by 30%, bringing our total to 75,400 people served per month.





Our plan for expansion.

- A** Additional space that leads to improvements in our storage and delivery system and increases the amount of product we can make available to partner agencies and families
- B** Expansion and relocation of refrigeration units to accommodate more fresh and frozen product
- C** A designated volunteer area that allows us to utilize more volunteers to ensure our warehouse is sufficiently supported and increase the food available to our partner agencies
- D** A second truck docking station which will enable us to efficiently intake and distribute product
- E** Additional equipment such as fork trucks and refer trucks to increase daily efficiencies

We can put healthy, nutritious food in the hands of more people.

This project isn't just about a larger warehouse. It's about more efficient use of our facility and the ability to distribute more nutritious, fresh foods. And it's possible only through our community's generous philanthropic support.

Every year we've increased the number of people we serve and the nutritious value of food we distribute.



Expanding and improving our facility ensures that we will be a vital resource in eastern Illinois for years to come. To accomplish the expansion and meet the growing needs of our service area, we are launching a \$3.6 million campaign.

Terri's story is one of more than 100,000 in eastern Illinois. Your investment puts food on more tables and gives hope to more families like Terri's.

♥ Together, we can fight hunger and transform our community.