



## PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Contact:

Molly Delaney

[mdelaney@eifoodbank.org](mailto:mdelaney@eifoodbank.org)

(217) 328-3663 x 217

(217) 417-8775 mobile

### **Eastern Illinois Foodbank to Honor Community Partners at Annual Recognition Event**

Champaign, Ill. Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) will honor its partners at a Partner Recognition Event sponsored by the East Central Illinois Building & Construction Trades Council. The annual event will take place on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at the I Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign from 5pm – 7pm and will feature awards given to EIF's community partners that have contributed to its mission over the last fiscal year.

Eastern Illinois Foodbank provides food to agencies such as food pantries, soup kitchens, snack programs and shelters who serve individuals and families struggling with hunger. The foodbank strives to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois and distributed more than 10.5 million pounds of food last year.

"We couldn't do what we do without the help of our community," said Jim Hires, President & CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. "From food donors to volunteers, we are tremendously grateful to have community partners that are so dedicated to helping us achieve our mission."

The following awards will be presented: Food Donor the Year – UNFI; Business Partner of the Year – Fertilizer Dealer Supply; Community Partner of the Year - University of Illinois Extension; Mission Impact Awards – Binny's Beverage Depot, Tom Degler, Amy Burns, Bruce Winter, Marvin Piwoni and Shawna Martell; Lifetime Giving Award – Clint and Tiffany Jackson.

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#### **About Eastern Illinois Foodbank**

*Eastern Illinois Foodbank works to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois through cooperation with a network of food pantries, agencies and other programs. The Foodbank distributes donated and discounted food throughout an 18-county service area in cooperation with more than 160 member agencies and programs. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides meals to more than 100,000 men, women and children each year. The Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Illinois, the United Way of Coles County, and the United Way of Champaign County. For more information on Eastern Illinois Foodbank, visit [eifoodbank.org](http://eifoodbank.org).*