



Eastern Illinois  
**Foodbank**

## PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Niemann Foods Partners with Eastern Illinois Foodbank for Weekly Pop-Up Food Pantry**

URBANA, Illinois – Eastern Illinois Foodbank will distribute product at a pop-up food pantry on Wednesday evenings, utilizing the former County Market location at 312 W. Kirby Avenue, Champaign. The space is being generously donated by Niemann Foods. Weekly distributions will begin Wednesday, February 1 from 4:30-6pm.

When approached with this unique opportunity, Niemann Foods was quick to offer their space to the Foodbank.

“We’re just so happy to partner with Eastern Illinois Foodbank and give back to the community that’s given so much to us,” said Gerry Kettler, Director of Consumer Affairs for Niemann Foods.

This pop-up pantry will feature fresh produce, bread, bakery items and more gleaned from local retailers and is open to the public who meet income eligibility guidelines (below). These distributions will allow people to acquire fresh produce and other pantry items to supplement what they may already be receiving from their local food pantries or emergency food programs. It is a first-come, first-serve distribution and attendees should bring their own bags or boxes to haul their goods.

“The Foodbank has seen an increase in the amount of produce and perishable donations from our retail partners,” said Jim Hires, President and CEO of Eastern Illinois Foodbank. “These pop-up pantries offer us some flexibility, in terms of location and hours of operation, to respond to the needs of our clients. With the generous support of Niemann Foods, we now have a way to move it from our warehouse and into the hands of our hungry neighbors.”

All local residents who meet income eligibility criteria are welcome. To be eligible, a household must have an income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level, or approximately \$3,746 per month for a family of four. People will be required to self-attest to their monthly household income. Full eligibility criteria are listed below:

Household Size	Monthly Income at or below
1	\$1,832
2	\$2,470
3	\$3,108
4	\$3,746
5	\$4,385
6	\$5,023
7	\$5,663
8+	\$6,304

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*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 a 17-*

*county service area in cooperation with over 200 member agencies and programs. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides meals to more than 116,000 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.*