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**For Immediate Release**

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## **STAMP OUT HUNGER® DRIVE FEEDS LOCAL FAMILIES FOR 31<sup>ST</sup> YEAR**

**URBANA, IL (May 7, 2024)**– The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will conduct its annual national food drive this Saturday, May 11. NALC's food drive, first held in 1993, helps feed thousands of neighbors in eastern Illinois.

Participating is an easy way to help feed neighbors experiencing food insecurity without leaving the house. The Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is the country's largest one-day food drive, and provides the community with an easy way to donate food to those facing hunger. Simply leave a donation of non-perishable food items next to your mailbox on Saturday, May 11. Letter carriers will collect these donations on that day as they deliver mail along their postal routes, and Eastern Illinois Foodbank will distribute the food throughout their 18-county service area.

Last year's drive brought in more than 27,000 meals to the foodbank. The timing of this opportunity to give is important—with summer approaching many school meal programs are suspended, putting local children at increased risk of food insecurity.

Community members are encouraged to leave a sturdy bag (or bags) containing non-perishable foods, such as canned soup, canned vegetables, canned meats and fish, pasta, rice, or cereal before the regular mail delivery on Saturday. The food donations stay in the community to help local individuals, seniors, and families facing hunger. Anyone interested in helping sort donations as a volunteer can visit [mobilize.us/eifoodbank/](https://mobilize.us/eifoodbank/) to register for a shift.

Local partners assisting NALC in the food drive include NALC Branch 671, United Way of Champaign County, and the AFL-CIO.

For more information, contact your local post office, or go to [nalc.org/food-drive](https://nalc.org/food-drive), [facebook.com/StampOutHunger](https://facebook.com/StampOutHunger) or [twitter.com/StampOutHunger](https://twitter.com/StampOutHunger).

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*Eastern Illinois Foodbank (EIF) works to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois as the primary food source to a network of 170 food pantries, agencies, and other programs throughout our 18-county service area. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides meals to more than 1 million people each year. Since 1983, EIF has led the fight against hunger and strengthened communities by providing food access, emergency relief, education, and advocacy to families in east-central Illinois. EIF is a member of Feeding America, Feeding Illinois, the United Way of Coles County, and the United Way of Champaign County. For more information, visit [eifoodbank.org](https://eifoodbank.org).*