

# food for thought

daretocare.org



**Dare  
to Care**  
Food Bank

*Your support means kids in Kentuckiana  
can enjoy better food—and more of it!*

**“You’re making an  
immediate positive  
impact on students  
and families.”**

—ANGELA BOONE,  
school pantry director

## Healthy futures start at school

Hunger hits close to home in Kentuckiana, where 1 in 6 children lack reliable access to nutritious food. Those numbers escalate further in “food deserts,” or pockets of the community where fresh produce is alarmingly scarce.

“Eighty-six percent of our students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch,” says Angela Boone, school pantry director at Breckinridge-Franklin Elementary in Louisville.

But thanks to support from generous donors like you, Dare to Care has successfully adapted its critical programs to tackle the hunger problem for students like Boone’s—even at the height of the pandemic.

Under Boone’s steady leadership, Breckinridge-Franklin recently transitioned from a Backpack Buddies program to a weekly school pantry model. The result: an impressive range of healthy choices at a greater quantity than ever before.

“In a word, kids love the variety of food,” Boone says. “I listen to their feedback and select foods that pair well together. It’s all about meal planning and making the most of every item.”

### Building a strong foundation

In the near future, Boone plans to apply for a refrigeration capacity-building grant through Dare to Care. Once complete, the school pantry will have increased space designated for perishable items like eggs, chicken, and fresh fruits and vegetables. It all translates to even healthier options that set children up for a life of success.

“Food is the foundation for everything these kids hope to achieve,” Boone says. “For example, you can’t learn to read as effectively if you’re malnourished. By giving them food, you’re making an immediate positive impact on a student and a family.”

Your generosity creates a crucial support system for kids in our community who might otherwise go hungry. Thank you for investing in a healthy future for all of Kentuckiana!

**August 2021**

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MEMBER OF  
**FEEDING  
AMERICA**



The end of summer also marks the end of my tenure as Executive Director of Dare to Care Food Bank. For the past 12 years, it's been an honor to lead this incredible organization and build friendships with so many of you who make this work possible.



Together, we faced two massive economic crises—the Great Recession of 2009 and the COVID-19 pandemic—and responded with urgency and creativity to ensure people got the food they needed.

We grew the volume of food we distribute by 150%, and dramatically improved the nutritional value and variety of that food.

We listened to the community's needs and launched innovative new programs like School Pantries, Prescriptive Pantries, and the Zero Hunger Mobile Market in partnership with Kroger.

We opened the Community Kitchen, an innovation and production center from which we are already developing new ways to end hunger.

And we invested hundreds of thousands of dollars into our amazing, 270-member partner network, enabling it to get more food and better food to more people.

Our shared achievements have brought food and hope to so many in our community and moved us toward our vision of a Hunger Free Kentuckiana.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without your support. Because of you, Dare to Care reaches more children, families, and seniors than any point in its 51-year history, and our future is bright. As the food bank moves forward, I hope you will continue your generous support of our work!

With gratitude,

Brian Riendeau, Executive Director

## Working together to ensure neighbors have fresh food

Neighborhood House has been serving children and families in Louisville's Portland neighborhood since 1896. They are a partner agency of Dare to Care, which helps provide food for emergency food boxes, Kids Cafe programs and more.

"I just want to make sure the people that need food have a place to come—and get healthy food and different types of food," says Billie Morton, food pantry manager at Neighborhood House.

Thanks to your support, Dare to Care could help Neighborhood House expand their refrigeration and shelving capabilities. That means more nutritious food for the individuals and families that come to them for help.

### A place for produce

Jennie Jean Davidson is the Executive Director at Neighborhood House, and said before this expansion, they had no way to take advantage of the fresh fruits and vegetables available through Dare to Care. Now, they have nearly double the amount of refrigeration space.

With no grocery store in the neighborhood, this expansion makes fresh produce more accessible to the people they serve. The expanded pantry opened this summer.

"There's a magical connection that happens around food that's really important to us—and Dare to Care is really what makes that possible," Jennie Jean says. "It's the difference between someone having food tonight and someone going hungry. It's much appreciated."

**For more information on our partner agencies, please visit [daretocare.org](https://daretocare.org) today. Thank you for your support!**



**"There's a magical connection that happens around food that's really important to us—and Dare to Care is really what makes that possible."**

—JENNIE JEAN DAVIDSON, Executive Director of Neighborhood House

## Spreading cheer and fighting hunger, door to door

Kitty has been volunteering at Serenity Center for longer than she can remember. Based in Shelbyville, Kentucky, this Dare to Care partner serves 600 people every week, and Kitty feels blessed to be a part of that.

"I get to see and communicate with people," she shares. "It just feels good."

Many of the people Kitty serves are veterans, seniors, and others who live with disabilities. As she got to know these neighbors, it became clear that leaving home was a hardship for them. So, three years ago, Kitty decided to start bringing food directly to their front doors.

"Some of the people I deliver to can't possibly get here," she explains. "They just wouldn't eat healthy if they didn't have Dare to Care."

Kitty is proud to say that, with the help of friends like you, every one of her special deliveries includes fruit and vegetables, and often dairy products and bread.

"We cover just about everything, every time," she beams.

Our deepest thanks go out to Kitty for her initiative and servant's heart...and to kind donors like you, who help our partners and volunteers care for our neighbors in need every day.



**"Some of the people I deliver to just wouldn't eat healthy if they didn't have Dare to Care."**

—KITTY



*Your gifts make difference. Thank you.*

Ready to roll up your sleeves?

## Calling all volunteers!

Dare to Care is thankful to have such dedicated volunteers. The pandemic did force a lot of our senior friends to stay home, but new friends stepped up to fill the gap. Today, we're still following strict safety protocols—and looking forward to welcoming back some of our star volunteers.

Would you like to join us? Here are a few areas where you could pitch in:

**Community Kitchen**—Not a chef? Not a problem! We can still use your can-do spirit. Chef Teresa and team will train you on everything you need to know, including basic meal prep and cleanup.

**Mobile Market**—Our Mobile Market is essentially a Kroger produce department on wheels. We need volunteers to shop for folks who can't physically board the market vehicle themselves.

**Mobile Pantry**—Is organization your strength? Then we need you on a crew for our Mobile Pantry! Come help set up tables and unload pallets of food at one of these outdoor distributions.

**You'll find all these opportunities and more, including local distributions with our partner agencies, at [volunteer.daretocare.org](https://volunteer.daretocare.org). We can't wait to serve alongside you!**



## Fresh and direct: Zero Hunger Mobile Market rolls on with your support

Two years ago, Dare to Care set out to help solve the need for fresh, healthy groceries in Kentuckiana's food deserts. Best described as a single-aisle grocery store on wheels, the Zero Hunger Mobile Market in partnership with Kroger has since developed into a thriving program, making three to four stops daily.

"We listen to the community and use a set of data tools to determine our route," explains Marcus Stubbs, mobile market manager. "Many of our stops are senior centers or family-oriented service centers. We look for areas where there's no farmer's market, free meal services, or even a grocery store."

When the mobile market pulls up, people know to expect the same pricing and selection they would find in a typical Kroger produce department. All shoppers qualify for in-store deals, plus a 10 percent discount courtesy of Dare to Care.



**"The smiles in our shoppers' eyes remind us why we do what we do."** —MARCUS

### Rolling with the Changes

The Zero Hunger Mobile Market has continued operations, even at the height of the COVID-19 crisis, by adapting in the face of challenges. Two shoppers are allowed on board at a time, and everyone observes careful social-distancing.

These guidelines ensure uninterrupted service for the mobile market's primary clientele: people who are elderly, lacking adequate transportation, or living with a disability.

"So many barriers to healthy food have existed since well before the pandemic," Stubbs says. "The smiles in our shoppers' eyes remind us why we do what we do."

Thank you for doing what *you* do. As a supporter of Dare to Care Food Bank, you're reaching underserved populations with the fresh, healthy food we all deserve.



# Help more families facing hunger today

Joyce was already struggling to make ends meet—then her daughter dropped off her 7-year-old son, unable to care for him. Suddenly, Joyce's tight budget needed to also provide food for her growing grandchild.

Her neighbor and friend, Vivian, was also facing hard times. She and her husband often skipped meals to feed their two young children.

As Vivian and Joyce leaned on each other—loading up their three kids in a wagon and walking a mile to the closest grocery store—they knew they needed help. Thankfully, your support was there for them.

**“This food really pulls us through. If I didn't have this, we just wouldn't make it.”**

—VIVIAN



*Your compassionate support helps put food on the table for families like Joyce's and Vivian's.*

“This food really pulls us through,” Vivian says. “If I didn't have this, we just wouldn't make it.”

Unfortunately, thousands of neighbors like Vivian and Joyce are facing hunger every day across Kentuckiana—especially as families struggle to get back on their feet due to the long-term economic impact of the pandemic. That's why we're hoping we can count on your generous support once again today.

With your gift to Dare to Care, you'll help provide more of the nutritious food children, families and seniors need. Remember, every \$1 can help provide 3 meals!

**Please take a moment to give online today at [daretocare.org](http://daretocare.org) or return the enclosed reply slip. You'll provide the nutritious food our neighbors need. Thank you!**

Photo has been changed to protect privacy of people we serve.

**Stay connected to the work you support! Please visit [daretocare.org](http://daretocare.org)**



*Hunger Action Month*

## Here's how YOU can take action

Looking to get even more involved in the mission to end hunger in our community? In partnership with our friends at Brown-Forman, Dare to Care has prepared a full slate of exciting Hunger Action Month events this September. You're invited to participate!



BROWN-FORMAN

### Give for Good Louisville

Friday, September 17, marks the next installment of this citywide online giving day. We urge you to make Dare to Care Food Bank your charity of choice. Help make hunger a top priority in our community by giving generously and spreading the word. Please donate now at [giveforgoodlouisville.org](http://giveforgoodlouisville.org).

### Stay engaged at [daretocare.org](http://daretocare.org)

All month long, our website will feature ways you can help during Hunger Action Month. Sign up to volunteer, tell friends and family about our work on social media, or even organize a fundraiser of your own.

Special thanks to Anthem for helping provide fresh produce throughout our community!



## MY AUGUST GIFT

**YES, Brian, I'll help provide nutritious meals for neighbors in need across Kentuckiana.**

Enclosed is my gift:

☐ \$150 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I commit to a monthly gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_. My first gift is enclosed.

☐ I've enclosed my employer's matching gift form, thereby increasing my support.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **Dare to Care Food Bank**  
PO Box 221619, Louisville, KY 40252-1619 | 502.966.3821

Give online at [daretocare.org](http://daretocare.org)

Please charge my gift on my credit card: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISC

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON ACCOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY # \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Your donation is tax deductible as permitted by law. Dare to Care Food Bank will send you a receipt in gratitude for your kindness to the individuals and families in Kentuckiana who rely on us for food.



**Dare to Care**  
Food Bank

MEMBER OF  
**FEEDING AMERICA**