

## **Senator Millner Partners with Northern Illinois Food Bank to Provide Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief**

ST. CHARLES, ILLINOIS, September 2, 2005 – Illinois Senator John Millner is organizing local food drives to gather supplies needed by people in areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The collection is being coordinated by Northern Illinois Food Bank, a member of America's Second Harvest – The Nation's Food Bank Network.

“This is a major disaster that affects all of us as Americans,” said John Millner, Illinois Senator 28th District. “This crisis will not be solved in a few weeks, so we need to have a long-term commitment to help our distant neighbors.” Millner has worked to provide food assistance in local communities as a volunteer with Northern Illinois Food Bank for more than 10 years.

Randy Ramey, Illinois Representative 55th District, and Paul Froehlich, Illinois Representative 56th District, are also assisting with the aid effort. Donations will be accepted at sites throughout communities in the 28th Senate District. For more information, please call Northern Illinois Food Bank at 630-443-6910 or Senator Millner's office.

Foods currently being requested by disaster relief workers include bottled water (no glass), single serving snacks like cereal bars, peanut butter, and heat-and-eat foods like chili, stew, and canned pasta with sauce.

Working with America's Second Harvest, Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) is coordinating efforts to amass donations of food and water and emergency supplies so that they can be shipped to facilities in the Gulf Coast. Volunteers and staff of NIFB will sort, sanitize, and package food for proper shipment to distribution points in the disaster area. The logistics team at America's Second Harvest is soliciting transportation in hopes of getting these supplies to the affected areas at reduced or no cost. NIFB operations in St. Charles, Rockford, and Park City are seeking additional volunteers to increase food-processing efforts to assist in the relief.

In addition to food, financial donations from the public and the corporate community are needed to help with the relief effort. Funds raised will go directly to helping Network food banks maintain or resume providing food assistance during this critical time. To make a financial donation to directly assist America's Second Harvest Members in affected areas, visit [www.secondharvest.org](http://www.secondharvest.org) or call 800-771-2303. To make a financial donation directly to Northern Illinois Food Bank, visit [www.northernilfoodbank.org](http://www.northernilfoodbank.org) or call 630-443-6910.

Northern Illinois Food Bank, a member of America's Second Harvest – The Nation's Food Bank Network, acquires donated food from retailers, manufacturers, corporations, and community resources and distributes it through its network of 480 food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, and other nonprofit food assistance sites to help the 227,000 people living in poverty in 13 northern Illinois counties including Boone, DeKalb,

DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will, and Winnebago Counties. Northern Illinois Food Bank has been committed to helping feed hungry people for more than 20 years. For more information on NIFB, please call 630.443.6910 or visit [www.northernilfoodbank.org](http://www.northernilfoodbank.org).

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For additional comments:

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