

HUNGER

THE SITUATION

A SNAPSHOT

Can you change it?

In our community, individuals and families are struggling to put food on their tables. Without basic needs, such as food, how will they ever get ahead?

At last count we had 20 separate food pantries operating in our 3 county coverage area. One would think that this would make food easier to access, but from

what we have seen, it is not that cut and dried. Individual food pantries

and their volunteers want to serve, but without networking, consistent tracking, and lack of continuous funding, it makes things very difficult for providers and their clients.

Then, beyond the food pantries where the clients visit in-person, we have additional feeding programs including breakfast, lunch and the bread rack at Salvation Army (SSM), as well as the backpack program that they took over a few years ago where they deliver

backpacks to kids at the school that go without food on the weekends.

Then we have the multiple schools and their Kidz Klozits which, sponsored by the Noon Rotary Club, fulfill basic needs during the school year including food, hygiene items and clothing.

Beyond that, here at United

Way, we haul groceries to Kincheloe Alternative School and Malcolm High School

to encourage students to be self-sufficient and by attending our program they get to take groceries home.

As of June 1, 2015, Sault Area Schools had identified #138 homeless students and we are sure there are more kids going hungry in other districts.

So how can help our community members' access food better? Think outside the box! Community Impact means going to the root of the problem.

food in·se·cu·ri·ty

noun

the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food.
"more than 800 million people live every day with hunger or food insecurity as their constant companion"

SOME STATISTICS

Total Population

Luce	6,522
Mackinac	11,137
Chippewa	38,917

Total Poverty

Luce	21.1%
Mackinac	16%
Chippewa	19.1%
State of MI	17.4%

Unemployment

Luce	6.9%
Mackinac	3.7%
Chippewa	7.8%
State of MI	5.4%

Food Insecure

Luce	16.8%
Mackinac	16%
Chippewa	17.3%

Free & Reduced

Luce	52.6%
Mackinac	53.7%
Chippewa	51.2%