



Key Insights from Early Adopters of the Food Security Solutions (FSS) Prioritization Process

HUNGER FREE NORTHBROOK

Hunger Resource
Network



Step 2: Suggest Solutions and Screen

Hunger Free Northbrook is committed to addressing food insecurity in Northbrook, IL. Step 1 of the **Food Security Solutions (FSS) Prioritization Process** identified local unmet needs that were clustered into several categories: the need to increase awareness about the local food security situation; improve the availability of food and transportation to food security resources; rescue food from waste and divert it to those in need; and have better coordination of and increased fundraising for local programs.

Hunger Free Northbrook held a brainstorming session during which participants suggested solutions to the question, “How can we help alleviate hunger in Northbrook?” Expanding current programming as well as new, creative approaches were all considered. An initial list of 27 **Suggested Solutions** was documented.

Each suggested solution was considered for its feasibility by asking key FSS screening questions, such as whether or not sufficient personnel or other required resources were available to execute the solution and whether or not there would be community support for it. Considering the local context, the group also thought it was essential to evaluate the expected length of time to implement a suggested solution (e.g. greater than or less than a year) and the availability of community leaders to “own” it. The **Screening Worksheet** documented this systematic process, narrowing the list of suggested solutions to the most feasible ones to explore further.

Key Insights on Step 2 from Hunger Free Northbrook

Including the stakeholders in every step of the process was critical to ensure engagement, accountability and ownership as the solutions, tradeoffs and prioritization are developed downstream. Future program implementation must be owned by stakeholders to sustain the effort to improve food security in the community.

“Solutions must be generated and/or validated by the stakeholders to ensure ownership going forward.”

- Hunger Free Northbrook Team

Hunger Free Northbrook is part of the **Hunger Resource Network**, a local, all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping alleviate hunger in the greater Chicago area. Learn more at www.hungerfreenorthbrook.org.

Find the **Food Security Solutions Prioritization Toolkit** at www.eatrightFoundation.org/FSSToolkit or email FSS@eatright.org