



Blue Earth County

For the month of November, let's consider what we're grateful for. This calendar will help us realize the basic things we have that we sometimes take for granted. Not everybody in our community has enough **FOOD** or **HOUSING** to live a healthy life. **November is a month to raise awareness about hunger and homeless issues in Blue Earth County AND to do something about it!**

Like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GratefulGivingBEC for a daily reminder, various challenges and other information throughout the month of November.



November 14 – 22, 2015
HELP US SPREAD THE WORD
#GratefulGivingBEC

1. Choose your favorite charity that fights hunger or homelessness (see list on the next page for suggested organizations).
2. Designate your "bank" at home (a jar, can, bag, basket, or envelope). Follow the instructions on the calendar. Talk about your "deposits" as a family. What other things are you grateful for? Who do you know that may not have some of these things listed? How can YOU help fight hunger and homelessness?
3. At the end of the month, DONATE the amount you've deposited to the charity of your choice. Please let us know when you donate to a charity. Share your giving at <https://www.facebook.com/GratefulGivingBEC>.

November, 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
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| 1 Deposit \$1 if you have a working furnace in your home | 2 For each bedroom in your house, deposit \$0.50 | 3 Deposit \$0.50 if you had dessert today | 4 Deposit \$0.10 for every light switch in your home | 5 If you sleep in your own bed, deposit \$0.25 | 6 For each TV in your home, deposit \$0.25 | 7 Deposit \$0.25 for every heat register in your home |
| 8 Deposit \$1 if you have more than 8 cans of food in your cupboards | 9 Deposit \$0.50 for each garage door opener you have | 10 For the convenience of a washer & dryer in your home, deposit \$1 | 11 If you had lunch today, deposit \$0.25 (all household members) | 12 Deposit \$0.25 for each year you've lived in your home | 13 Deposit \$0.50 if you have clean water to drink that comes out of your faucets | 14 If you had breakfast today, deposit \$0.25 (all household members) |
| 15 For every cell phone or computer in your house, deposit \$1 | 16 Deposit \$0.50 if you have enough blankets to keep you warm at night | 17 If you had a snack today, deposit \$0.25 (all household members) | 18 Deposit \$0.50 if you bought coffee or soda today | 19 For every household member who has a job, deposit \$0.50 | 20 If you had a hot shower today, deposit \$0.25 | 21 Deposit \$0.50 if you went to the grocery store this week |
| 22 Deposit \$1 for every pet you have | 23 If you had supper today deposit \$0.25 (all household members) | 24 If you know where your next meal is coming from, deposit \$0.25 | 25 If you went to, or rented a movie this month, deposit \$0.25 | 26 Traveling for the Holidays? Deposit \$0.05 for every mile you go | 27 If you own more than five pairs of shoes, deposit \$0.25 | 28 Deposit \$0.50 if you have your own car |

For the average household, this will total up to about \$15.

What does \$15 mean to your family?

Maybe it's a take-out order of pizza. Maybe it's a half a tank of gas. Maybe it's popcorn at the movies.

What does \$15 mean for a non-profit that meets the needs of hungry and homeless people in our community?

- \$15 will provide a Thanksgiving meal to a family of 4
- \$15 will pay for one day of electricity at the Theresa House shelter
- \$15 will pay for bus fare for a youth to get to/from their job for 1 week

Organized by the Blue Earth County Homeless Response Team. Leadership for this project by: Centenary United Methodist Church, Minnesota Valley Action Council, Partners for Affordable Housing, Rural Aids Action Network, The Backpack Program, The REACH and SMILES

Suggested Organizations

BackPack Food Program

Discreetly provides elementary students from low-income households with breakfast, lunch, and a snack for each day that school is not in session.

PO Box 5275, Mankato, MN 56002-5275

www.backpackfoodprogram.org

ECHO Food Shelf

Provides emergency food to residents of Blue Earth County and the city of North Mankato.

1014 South Front Street

Mankato, MN 56001

www.echofoodshelf.org

Holy Grounds Community Coffee House (Centenary United Methodist Church)

Provides a free breakfast six days a week from October – April.

501 S. Second Street, Mankato, MN 56001

www.mankatocentenary.org

MVAC's Homeless Prevention Programs (Minnesota Valley Action Council)

Crisis assistance available to prevent or end homelessness. Problem solving, resource/referral and budget coaching provided to assist households maintain housing stability.

706 N. Victory Drive, Mankato, MN 56001

mnavac.org

Salvation Army

"Doing the Most Good" which includes providing free, mid-day meals and a seasonal men's shelter.

P.O. Box 373, Mankato, MN 56001

www.salvationarmynorth.org

The REACH Drop In Center (Lutheran Social Service)

Serves youth under the age of 25 who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless with daily meals, clothes closet, food shelf, hygiene products, case management and youth-specific programming.

125 East Liberty Street

Mankato, MN 56001

mankatoyouth@lssmn.org

Theresa House and Welcome Inn (Partners for Affordable Housing)

Provides shelter for homeless families / individuals and helps them secure economically viable, long-term housing.

151 Good Counsel Dr, Suite 130, Mankato, MN 56001

www.partnersforhousing.org