



Contact

Lindsay Pingel
Food Bank of Iowa Communications Manager
lpingel@iowafoodbank.org
515-564-0330



Contact

Gunnar Olson
DART Public Affairs Manager
golson@ridedart.com
515-283-5008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Fares for Food Day will benefit Food Bank of Iowa

For one day during this giving season, all cash collected on DART buses will be donated to the Food Bank of Iowa.

Fares for Food Day will be held Thursday, December 12. DART riders can make donations of their standard boarding fares (\$1.75 for local, \$2 for Express, and \$3.50 for Flex and On Call). Additionally, people who typically pay with passes or employer IDs can make cash donations of any amount that day.

“For one day, we’re turning the fare boxes into donation boxes,” said Steve Van Oort, Polk County Supervisor and Chair of the DART Commission. “We recognize that many residents of Greater Des Moines – family, friends and coworkers – struggle to put food on their table.”

All proceeds will benefit the Food Bank of Iowa, a charitable, not-for-profit organization committed to alleviating hunger through food distribution, partnership and education. Its primary role is to provide food to the charitable agencies offering direct service to hungry Iowans.

According to the Food Bank of Iowa:

- 1 in 8 Iowans is food insecure;
- 1 in 5 Iowa children does not have enough to eat;
- 395,620 Iowans live at or below the poverty line; and
- For every \$1 donation, the Food Bank of Iowa is able to provide 4.5 meals.

A presentation of the donated money is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, at the Food Bank of Iowa, 2220 E. 17th St., Des Moines. For more information, please visit www.ridedart.com or call DART Customer Service at 515-283-8100.

About DART: The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority is the public transportation provider that serves Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that makes getting around the Greater Des Moines area easier and more convenient. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit the website at www.ridedart.com or call 515-283-8100. The MyDART Trip Planner BETA is now available at www.ridedart.com.

About the Food Bank of Iowa: The Food Bank of Iowa is a private, not-for-profit organization committed to its mission of alleviating hunger through food distribution, partnership, and education. The Food Bank of Iowa solicits, receives, inventories, and distributes donated food and grocery products to more than 375 partner agencies in 55 counties who directly serve needy individuals within their communities. In FY 2013, the Food Bank of Iowa distributed 9,024,000 lbs. of food. To learn more, visit www.foodbankiowa.org or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/foodbankiowa.