“Gr8 Pasta Push” Fast Facts

Second Helpings:

- Rescues 3 million pounds of food every year, preventing it from entering local landfills
- Turns that rescued food into 1.5 million nutritious meals for neighbors in need by providing them to more than 100 partner agencies across central Indiana
- Provides meals in six central Indiana counties: Marion, Hamilton, Boone, Hendricks, Morgan and Johnson
- Has graduated over 900 students from our Culinary Job Training program

Pasta

- Second Helpings uses 1,100 pounds of pasta every week in preparing nutritious meals
- Our critically needed items are elbow macaroni and spaghetti
- Pasta is not often donated through regular donation channels because of its shelf life is so long that wholesalers and grocery stores don’t need to move it along as quickly as perishable items

Hunger, Poverty, and Food Waste

- Even before the COVID-19 crisis began, 1 in 7 Hoosiers was food insecure. Now, that number likely much higher.
  - The USDA defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.
- Before the COVID-19 crisis began, 17.2% of Marion County residents and 24.5% of children live below the federal poverty line.
- In the United States, more than 1/3 of all available food goes uneaten through loss or waste.