

Global Gazette

The latest news, updates, and announcements

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Quote of the Month:

*"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."
— Margaret J. Wheatley*



August: The Educational Digital Divide

In support of Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education, our monthly workshop zeroed in on the growing digital divide in education. We explored how around 9 million children in the U.S. lack reliable internet access at home, putting them at a significant disadvantage. These students often score 5% lower on standardized tests and are 15% less likely to pursue STEM careers, limiting their future opportunities. Beyond academics, the digital divide also impacts students' self-esteem—70% of those from low-income families reported feeling embarrassed about their lack of access to technology, leading to feelings of inadequacy. Our team discussed how this issue not only affects individual students but also perpetuates broader inequalities. In response, we're proud to support the non-profit organization, Reading Is Fundamental with a donation this month. Their team is helping to provide essential reading resources to students of all backgrounds. By doing so, they're taking a step towards bridging this gap and ensuring that every student has the chance to succeed. As always, we're committed to fostering education and equality, making a positive difference wherever we can.

NIFB's Hunger Scramble



On August 20th, members of our team had the privilege of participating in the 26th annual Hunger Scramble Golf Outing, hosted by the Northern Illinois Food Bank. Our golfers, including our star player Josh Levy, along with Cindy Muys, Alexis Mordawski, and Marianna Guerra, enjoyed a fantastic day on the stunning 27-hole Arnold Palmer Signature Course. It was a great experience, not only playing on such a beautiful course but also connecting with other supporters of the Northern Illinois Food Bank, all united by a shared commitment to fighting hunger in our community. The event was packed with contests, giveaways, raffles, and a silent auction. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors and participants, over \$160,000 was raised—equating to more than \$1.2 million worth of groceries for families in need across Northern Illinois. On top of the camaraderie and competition, the event served as a powerful reminder of the collective impact we can have when we come together to support a worthy cause.



The spirit of giving didn't end there. The following day, Marianna, Alexis, and Felix II continued their support by visiting the Northern Illinois Food Bank for an after-work volunteer session. As we gear up for the end of summer, it was fitting to get into the harvest spirit—they had a great time laughing and chatting with the team while shucking and sorting 900 pounds of corn, all with the thoughtful and helpful guidance of the Food Bank's volunteer leaders. Being there really brought the Food Bank's mission to life, showing firsthand how our support makes a real impact. Their efforts helped provide 750 meals to neighbors in our community, reinforcing our commitment to supporting those in need and making a tangible difference.

The Hatchery Annual Buyers Event



Earlier this month, our Business Development team, represented by Becca Fortsch and Tim Mustafa, attended The Hatchery Chicago's 5th Annual Buyers Event. Held at their downtown office and cutting-edge kitchen space, the event highlighted a diverse range of products from local entrepreneurs who have been supported by The Hatchery.

As a non-profit food and beverage incubator, The Hatchery is dedicated to helping local entrepreneurs build and grow successful businesses through their commercial kitchen facilities, entrepreneurship curriculum, and partnerships with corporate sponsors. The Hatchery offers workshops, which equip entrepreneurs with vital industry knowledge—from DIY food product photography to navigating business banking and learning how to get their products onto retail shelves.

This event offered Global an excellent opportunity to connect with emerging brands that align with our mission of fostering sustainable growth within the specialty food industry. We're excited to announce that Global will be collaborating with The Hatchery on an upcoming project to help these local entrepreneurs expand their reach both nationally and globally. Stay tuned for more details about this exciting collaboration!

