



Illinois State Treasurer
MICHAEL FRERICHS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Dec. 18, 2025

State Treasurer Michael Frerichs Returns \$100,000 in Missing Money to Illinois Food Pantries

Bolingbrook Nonprofit That Twice Saw Thieves Steal Catalytic Converters off Donation Trucks Receives \$5,500

VIDEO will be posted here: <https://cms.illinois.gov/agency/media/video/videos.html>

Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs is returning \$100,000 in missing money to food pantries throughout the state.

Each December, Frerichs' office focuses on returning money through the ICash program to nonprofit groups that help people in need. This year, Frerichs decided to help food pantries that saw resources stretched and demand spike when the federal government shutdown stopped food assistance to many Illinois families in November.

"Food pantries always step up to feed people in need," Frerichs said. "It's been a challenging year with federal cutbacks to food banks earlier in the year. The Trump administration opting to cut off food assistance to our state's neediest folks last month was a double whammy. We wanted to see if we could help, when our local food pantries put meals on the table for millions of Illinoisans."

On Thursday, Frerichs visited the food pantry at 4 K.I.D.S. Sake in the southwest suburbs to return \$5,500 to the nonprofit. Twice this year, thieves stole the catalytic converters from their donation trucks to sell for scrap metal. The latest theft happened in November.

The Bolingbrook nonprofit was founded in 2012 by Theresa Watson when she was 17 and saw that needs of so many children in difficult situations were not being met. Since then, the charity has helped more than 10,000 children. 4 K.I.D.S. Sake has a food pantry and resale shop.

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“This money will help as we try to meet the needs of families during the holiday season,” Watson said. “We pick up six days a week. Our trucks are critical to serving families. These thefts have been devastating, but we’re strong and resilient.”

The money for 4 K.I.D.S Sake came to the Illinois Treasurer’s Office from a health insurance company last year.

“What those thieves did to 4 K.I.D.S Sake’s trucks is unconscionable. This group does so much to help people, and we are happy to be able to do something to help them, especially at such an important time of year,” said Frerichs, who returned the money along with Bolingbrook Mayor Mary Alexander-Basta, State Sen. Meg Loughran-Cappel of Shorewood, and State Reps. Natalie Manley of Joliet and Dagmara Avelar of Romeoville.

Illinois’ unclaimed property program, also known as ICash, is one of the state’s oldest consumer protection initiatives. In Illinois, the state treasurer is tasked with safeguarding unclaimed property, such as the contents of overlooked safe deposit boxes, unpaid life insurance benefits, forgotten bank accounts and unused rebate cards.

Illinois holds more than \$5 billion in unclaimed property. More than \$2.4 billion has been returned since Frerichs took office, the most in state history. To see if you have unclaimed property, check the online database at icash.illinoistreasurer.gov. The state treasurer is legally required to return unclaimed property to its owners or heirs, no matter how long it takes.

Here is a list of the 86 food pantries (by county) that Treasurer Frerichs is returning money to this month:

BOONE

Belvidere

Grace Family Church - \$541.60

Capron

Empower Boone - \$15,125.16

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BUREAU

Princeton

Bureau County Food Pantry - \$1,500

CHAMPAIGN

Urbana

Eastern Illinois Foodbank - \$148.21

COOK

Berwyn

Ebenezer Christian Reformed Church - \$1,925.65

Bridgeview

The Mosque Foundation - \$200

Chicago

A Little Bit of Heaven - \$44.25

A Safe Haven Foundation - \$504

ABJ Civic Arts Center - \$409.16

Allen Metropolitan Christian Methodist Episcopal Church - \$317.90

American Indian Center - \$16,075.09

Apostolic Pentecostal Church of Morgan Park - \$124.47

Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church - \$516.20

Firman Community Services - \$1,552.05

Greater Chicago Food Depository - \$69.21

Henry Booth House - \$418

Iglesia Amor de Dios United Methodist Church - \$47.70

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Lincoln Park Community Services - \$139.41

Northwestern Settlement - \$100

Open Arms Ministry - \$110.28

Perfected Way Ministries - \$300.77

Pilsen Wellness Center Inc. - \$223.19

Polish American Association - \$686.40

Saint Vincent dePaul Center - \$140.04

Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church - \$100

St Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church - \$1,000

Chicago Heights

Chicago Miracle Temple Church - \$293.14

Glenview

Northfield Township Food Pantry - \$501

Maywood

The Second Baptist Church - \$272.64

Mount Prospect

Northwest Compass, Inc. - \$84

Oak Park

Beyond Hunger - \$30.15

Palatine

Palatine Township - \$205.35

Posen

Abounding Life Church of God in Christ - \$754.02

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Rolling Meadows

Harvest Bible Chapel - Rolling Meadows - \$245.61

South Barrington

Willow Creek Care Center - \$1,241.77

Tinley Park

Together We Cope - \$91.50

DEKALB

DeKalb

Hope Haven of DeKalb County, Inc. - \$120

DUPAGE

Carol Stream

Interfaith Food Pantry - \$22.58

Elmhurst

Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry - \$602

Lisle

Lisle Township Food Pantry - \$150

Reach Community Services - \$35

Lombard

Lombard Villa Park Food Pantry - \$100

Naperville

Loaves & Fishes Community Services - \$61.18

Warrenville

St. Irene Catholic Church - \$75

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HANCOCK

Carthage

Hancock County Health Department - \$350

HENRY

Cambridge

GROW Ministries Inc. - \$90

Geneseo

Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry - \$75

Orion

Orion Area Food Pantry - \$250

KANE

Aurora

Aurora Area Interfaith Food Pantry - \$5,006.40

Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry - \$47.51

Two Rivers Head Start Agency - \$2,965.36

Carpentersville

FISH Food Pantry - \$8,991.42

Elgin

First United Methodist Church - \$254.66

Geneva

Northern Illinois Food Bank - \$218.23

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KANKAKEE

Kankakee

Kankakee County Community Services, Inc. - \$611.16

KENDALL

Yorkville

Kendall County Community Food Pantry - \$69.87

LAKE

Round Lake Park

Avon Township Center Food Pantry - \$328.43

Waukegan

COOL Food Pantry - \$1,145

Club Apaseo El Alto - \$999.45

Community Action Partnership of Lake County - \$12,192.81

Zion

Christian Faith Fellowship Church - \$103.92

LOGAN

Lincoln

Lincoln Logan Food Pantry - \$278

MADISON

Edwardsville

Glen-Ed Pantry - \$100

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McLEAN

Normal

Midwest Food Bank - \$746.76

PEORIA

Bartonville

Bartonville Christian Church - \$103.98

Peoria

Neighborhood House - \$1,319.27

Saint Sharbel Maronite Catholic Church - \$60.48

The Salvation Army - \$1,676.38

Zion Baptist Church - \$113.24

West Peoria

Bread of Life West Peoria - \$180.05

ROCK ISLAND

Moline

River Bend Food Bank - \$244.47

Rock Island

Project Now - \$764.18

ST. CLAIR

East St. Louis

Call For Help - \$500

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East St. Louis Township - \$1,072.60

Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House - \$123.67

Freeburg

Food and Clothing Bank - \$212.88

STEPHENSON

German Valley

German Valley Food Pantry - \$150

VERMILION

Danville

Danville Rescue - \$2,070.20

WARREN

Monmouth

Jamieson Community Center - \$97.33

WHITESIDE

Sterling

Sauk Valley Foodbank - \$1,177.64

Whiteside County Senior Center - \$873.73

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WILL

Bolingbrook

4 K.I.D.S. Sake - \$5,499.45

Frankfort

Frankfort Township Food Pantry - \$997.37

Joliet

Warren-Sharpe Community Center - \$108.02

WILLIAMSON

Marion

Marion Ministerial Alliance - \$72.52

WINNEBAGO

Rockford

Remedies Renewing Lives - \$97.13

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About the Treasurer

The Illinois State Treasurer's Office is a powerful economic engine that invests in people to drive prosperity, development and growth throughout the state. As State Treasurer, Michael Frerichs (FRAIR'iks) is the state's Chief Investment and Banking Officer and actively manages approximately \$60 billion. The investments help families pay for college and trade school; workers save for a dignified retirement; and local governments process bill payments more efficiently so they can pass along the savings to taxpayers. The office provides financial institutions with money to loan to farmers, small business owners, and qualified individuals at below-market rates because better jobs create stronger communities. The office operates the



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state's largest consumer-protection initiative, the missing money ICash program, which has returned a record-breaking \$2.4 billion since Frerichs was elected.

For more news about the State Treasurer's Office, please sign up for our [newsletter](#) and follow Treasurer Frerichs on Instagram at [IL Treasurer](#), Threads [@iltreasurer](#), [LinkedIn](#) and on Facebook at [Invested in You – Treasurer Michael Frerichs](#).

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