



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Patrick Boyle, Executive Director

Email: patrick@sheboygancountyfb.com

Cell: 414-218-7514

Office: 920-453-0169

Sheboygan County Food Bank Launches Sheboygan County Hunger Relief Food Fund in Wake of Declared State of Emergency due to COVID-19

Sheboygan, WI (March 20, 2020) –

In the wake of the recently declared State of Emergency, Sheboygan County Food Bank is closed to the public, but will remain open in service to our partners who serve seniors, families, and children throughout Sheboygan County. Our dedicated staff are maintaining the operations of Sheboygan County Food Bank on-site and working remotely. At this time, all food pantries are staying open and transitioning to handing out prepackaged emergency food boxes, but some have adjusted their hours, or waived requirements.

We are dedicated to addressing the emergency food needs of our neighbors, especially in times of uncertainty. Sheboygan County Food Bank has launched the *Sheboygan County Hunger Relief Food Fund* in response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Sheboygan County.

As our community's businesses and organizations adjust operations to take necessary precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Sheboygan County Food Bank is anticipating a very significant increase in emergency food assistance for our neighbors. Moreover, we have been working hard to assemble and distribute prepackaged emergency food boxes to provide our neighbors with a 14-day supply of food in the event that they need to self-quarantine. Our annual Boy Scout Food Drive is canceled and we anticipate Stamp Out Hunger (held in May every year) will be canceled as well. This means that we will not receive over 50,000 pounds of non-perishable food that we would normally receive this time of year. The in-kind value of 50,000 pounds of food is \$90,000.

Cash donations to purchase food items will be incredibly important to Sheboygan County Food Bank during this time to cover shortfalls in food donations and meet the increased demand. Cash donations of any amount are graciously accepted and it is the easiest, safest way to help. We accept both checks and online donations. If you decide to send a check, please make checks payable to "Sheboygan County Food Bank" and mail to our location, 3115 N 21st St., Suite #1, Sheboygan, WI 53083, and please note "Sheboygan County Hunger Relief Food Fund" if you want the money to go specifically for food purchases in response to COVID-19 in our community. Online donations have a "Sheboygan County Hunger Relief Food Fund" designation option.

Over the coming weeks and months, many of our most vulnerable neighbors will need the support and help of caring community members who are in the position to give. We thank you in advance for your thoughtful generosity and compassion.

To donate online now and for the latest updates, resources, and FAQs related to emergency food in Sheboygan County, please visit our website at SheboyganCountyFoodBank.com.