



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Food Bank Announces Emergency Food Distribution at PPG Paints Arena

DUQUESNE, PA (April 8, 2020) – Working in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Penguins and City of Pittsburgh Police, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (the Food Bank) today announced an emergency drive-up food distribution set to take place at the parking lots of PPG Paints Arena from **10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, April 10**. The organizations plan to serve 1,300 vehicles through this three-hour event.

“We thank the Pittsburgh Penguins for their support during this critical time of need in our community,” said Lisa Scales, president and CEO of the Food Bank. “We’re proud to partner with them for this distribution and grateful for their help with ensuring all of our neighbors in need of food assistance are able to get it.”

For everyone’s safety, only those attending the event in a vehicle will be served – no walk-ups will be permitted. The City of Pittsburgh Police will be assisting the organizations with traffic control.

“The Pittsburgh Penguins and PPG Paints Arena have always supported Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and are proud to assist them in the great work they are doing during this unprecedented time of need,” said David Morehouse, president and CEO of the Penguins.

Those who need food assistance, but do not have access to a vehicle should visit the Food Bank’s website at pittsburghfoodbank.org/gethelp for information on opportunities for help, including a map of food pantries, meals for children and SNAP (food stamps) application assistance.

For the safety of all staff, volunteers and attendees, the Food Bank is asking individuals to follow a couple of guidelines.

- All traffic will enter the parking lots via Centre Avenue. Traffic on Bedford and Centre Avenues will be restricted to aid in traffic flow for this event. Full traffic details will be announced on Thursday, April 9.

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- For everyone's safety and to maintain the six-foot social distancing guideline, individuals must stay in their cars at all times except to use the provided outdoor restroom facilities. Leaving cars to socialize is prohibited.
- After pulling up to the distribution area, please put the car in park and then unlock the trunk or backseat for food to be loaded. For everyone's safety, volunteers will not be able to load food into the cars until they are in park.
- To maintain social distancing, when food is being loaded into the car, please do not get out of the car.
- Stay alert and follow the guidance of Food Bank staff and police as they direct cars through the distribution area.

In the interest of serving as many cars as possible, **individuals attending this emergency food distribution will receive two boxes of dry, shelf-stable food per car regardless of the number of families or groups in the vehicle.** These two boxes provide enough food for more than 40 meals. The organization's network of food pantries is strong and ready to assist those who need additional assistance with food.

In these uncertain times, the Food Bank is committed to continuing its nearly 40-year mission of feeding people in need and mobilizing the community to eliminate hunger. The organization is continuously monitoring this ever-changing situation and evaluating the best way to provide assistance to individuals and families in need of food assistance.

Understanding that this is an incredibly stressful time on families and children who rely on school meals, the Food Bank is working with school districts to ensure they have the resources, information and community partner support they need to be able to serve meals to children.

A full schedule of upcoming distributions; information on volunteer opportunities; and a comprehensive list and map of what schools and community organizations are doing to feed children while schools are closed are available on the Food Bank's website at pittsburghfoodbank.org/covid19.

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