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Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank Needs Support from Southwest PA in the Fight Against Hunger Feeding America Network Food Banks across the Country Unite for Hunger Action Month Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Duquesne, PA - September 1, 2020 - Hunger impacts people in every corner of the country, including 1 in 7 of our neighbors in southwestern Pennsylvania.

That is why Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (the Food Bank) joins Feeding America® food banks nationwide this September to take part in Hunger Action Month™ and inspire people to take action and bring attention to the reality of food insecurity in America. This year's campaign comes at a critical time when the COVID-19 pandemic has hurt millions of people. Due to staggering unemployment rates, Feeding America estimates an additional 17 million people could be food insecure in 2020 as a result of this crisis, bringing the total up to 54 million people.

"The Food Bank has seen an incredible response from the community over the past several months. As we head into Hunger Action Month, we hope more people will become aware of how many families face hunger in southwestern Pennsylvania," said Lisa Scales, President & CEO of Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. "We know that hunger existed long before the pandemic and that more of our neighbors - our children's classmates, the barista at the local coffee shop, possibly even a family member - could be struggling to put food on the table today. We are sharing the message that 'Every Action Counts' during Hunger Action Month and hope you will join us in taking action by donating, volunteering or speaking out throughout the month of September and beyond."

The Food Bank has many activities planned to engage our community in hunger relief and awareness building, including the continuation of our Food Justice is Social Justice campaign, as well as an exciting announcement to come about the Food Bank for the Future.

"We need your help now more than ever," said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. "Hunger in this country existed long before COVID-19, but the pandemic has thrust more and more of our neighbors into food insecurity, and food banks are responding to a sustained, increased demand. With support of the community, together we can end hunger one helping at a time."

September marks the thirteenth year the Feeding America network has organized this annual call to action. To learn more about the Food Bank and other ways you can get involved for Hunger Action Month in southwest PA, visit pittsburghfoodbank.org or HungerActionMonth.org. You can also join the conversation by posting photos or stories to social media with #HungerActionMonth, @pghfoodbank and @FeedingAmerica.

About Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank:

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is a nonprofit organization that distributes nearly 40 million meals annually across 11 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania through a network of 365 agencies, partners and programs. The Food Bank was founded in 1980 and is a member of Feeding America, the leading domestic hunger-relief charity in the U.S. For more information on hunger in our region or how to get involved, visit pittsburghfoodbank.org.

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