



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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S.V. Temple honors sacred Hindu ceremony through Food Bank Distribution Wilkinsburg event to offer 100 percent vegetarian food

When: June 26, 2021 from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Where: East End Behavioral Health Hospital (formerly LifeCare Hospital)
Enter at 225 Penn Ave (Intersection of N Trenton & Penn Ave)
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Duquesne, PA (June 24, 2021) - In honor of the sacred Hindu ceremony Maha Kumbhaabhishekam, Sri Venkateswara Temple (S.V.Temple) is sponsoring Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank's regularly scheduled Wilkinsburg distribution on June 26. S.V. Temple is located in Penn Hills, and is one of the earliest traditional Hindu Temples built in the United States.

Hindus revere all life, and only serve and prepare vegetarian food during religious festivals and sacred events. To honor the Hindu religion, the Wilkinsburg distribution will be 100 percent vegetarian with a shelf-stable food box, a produce box and a mix-dairy box for those who attend.

Suchitra Srinivasa is on the Executive Committee of S.V. Temple and is chairman of the Humanitarian Committee. Srinivasa says partnering with the Food Bank in honor of the religious ceremony reflects the Temple's beliefs.

"In the sacred Hindu text, Lord Sri Krishna teaches 'Annad bhavanthi bhuthani.' It means that all life springs forth from food. All creation is sustained due to food," said Srinivasa. "Hindu teachings also emphasize that feeding the less advantaged people of the community is feeding God residing in the souls of such people."

S.V. Temple is underwriting the cost of the distribution and providing all of the volunteers for the distribution. The Temple has actively donated food and money to the Food Bank for the past decade.

"We are thrilled to partner with the S.V. Temple on this special vegetarian food distribution. Sharing food with a neighbor is such a meaningful way for the Temple to honor their faith by giving back. We are truly grateful for their partnership that will supply much needed food items to our neighbors," said chief development officer of the Food Bank, Charla Irwin-Buncher.

To sign up for the Wilkinsburg distribution, visit pittsburghfoodbank.org/drive-up or call the Food Bank at 412-460-3663, ext. 655. Reservations open four weeks before each event and close at 5 p.m. the day before the distribution.

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