## **CONTACT:**

Brian Gulish
Vice President, Marketing & Communications
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
412-745-6470 | bgulish@pittsburghfoodbank.org



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank Consumer Alert

Food Bank public fundraising procedures

**PITTSBURGH, PA (Wednesday, October 5, 2022)** – In an effort to limit fraudulent fundraising, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is issuing an alert that the organization does not solicit donations or host collections outside of games and concerts at PNC Park, Acrisure Stadium and PPG Paints Arena.

Recently, the Food Bank has been made aware of perpetrators posing as staff and volunteers and approaching groups in public settings asking for donations.

"The Food Bank does not employ these methods or this type of solicitation of funds," Charla Irwin-Buncher, Chief Development Officer at the Food Bank said. "We want the public to know that if you are approached outside of sporting events, concerts, shows or any other large gathering to make a donation to the Food Bank, this is not a common practice of ours."

The Food Bank encourages those who want to make a donation to visit <a href="www.PittsburghFoodBank.org">www.PittsburghFoodBank.org</a> or by calling 412-460-3663.

"We generally do not approach community members at large-scale events with roving volunteers to solicit donations. If you are suspicious or have any questions about the legitimacy of someone collecting donations, please contact the Food Bank," Irwin-Buncher said. "One of the few outside events we do solicit cash donations for is Photos with Santa at the Peoples Gas Holiday Market. That takes place November 19 to December 23 in the Heinz Hall Courtyard."

## **About Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank**

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is a nonprofit organization that distributes 42 million meals annually across 11 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania through a network of more than 1,000 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.