



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Put A Stamp On It

Annual Stamp Out Hunger statewide food drive takes place Saturday



MILWAUKEE – (May 11, 2018) – This morning, Local Letter Carriers, TV personalities, elected officials and Hunger Task Force partners competed in the annual Letter Carrier Olympics to kick off Stamp Out Hunger. The obstacle course served as an exciting prelude for tomorrow's food drive, where Hunger Task Force has set a goal to collect 500,000 pounds of food.

This year marks the 26th consecutive year of the National Association of Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger food drive, the country's *largest* single-day drive. The public is encouraged to fill any bag with healthy nonperishable foods and leave it by their mailbox **tomorrow morning** for their letter carrier to pick up on their regular mail route schedule.

Instead of simply emptying items from the back of the pantry, the public is asked to donate healthy nonperishable food items such as peanut butter, breakfast cereal, tuna and canned fruits and vegetables in their donation bags. As the first MyPlate food bank in the country, Hunger Task Force aims to distribute only healthy, nutritious foods to its network of 74 food pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters.

"Stamp Out Hunger is such an easy way for Milwaukee families to be generous and help their hungry neighbors," said Sherrie Tussler, executive director of Hunger Task Force. "You don't even have to leave your house – just fill a bag with some healthy food and put it out by your mailbox Saturday morning. We've got some strong and dedicated Letter Carriers here in Milwaukee who are up for the challenge, doing double-duty all day long."

Stamp Out Hunger is sponsored locally by the National Association of Letter Carriers, Kohl's, Rexnord and the local United Food & Commercial Workers union. Dunkin Donuts also provided in-kind support, supporting the cups-stacking challenge during the Letter Carrier Olympics and gifting more than 1,000 donuts to our local Letter Carriers to thank them for their hard work.

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PG. 2 / STAMP OUT HUNGER TOMORROW

"We're proud to have an opportunity to support our letter carriers as they contribute to this very worthwhile cause," said Vishal Patel, Dunkin' Donuts manager, Manvee CML. "Certainly in the communities in which we work and live, we see families in need. This provides us with a convenient, beneficial way to help, and we're happy to do so."

Media are invited to capture the action tomorrow by visiting the Letter Carriers along their routes and local Hunger Task Force volunteers at Post Offices throughout Milwaukee.

When: **Saturday, May 12**
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. [most mail vehicles unload in this time frame]

Where: Various Milwaukee Post Offices [call Sarah for best visuals]

West Milwaukee Post Office
4300 W. Lincoln Avenue, 53219

Tuckaway Branch
5144 S. 27th Street, 53221

Franklin Post Office
9575 Brenwood Park, 53132

Western Post Office
5521 W. Center St., 53210

Visuals: Letter carriers picking up mail along their regular mail routes city-wide
Letter carriers unloading bags of donated food from their mail vehicles
Volunteers sorting through donated food into large Gordians for distribution

Interviews: Sherrie Tussler, Executive Director – Hunger Task Force
Gregg Sustache, 2018 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Coordinator

Hunger Task Force is Milwaukee's Free & Local food bank and Wisconsin's anti-hunger leader. The organization provides healthy and nutritious food to hungry children, families and seniors in the community absolutely free of charge. Hunger Task Force was founded in 1974 by a local advocacy group who then formed Milwaukee's first food bank. Today, Hunger Task Force is 100% supported by the community and provides a safety net of emergency food with dignity to a network of 75 food pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters. Through legislative analysis, education and community organizing, Hunger Task Force continues to advocate for anti-hunger policy at the local, state and federal level. For more information, visit HungerTaskForce.org.

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