



The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Norma F. Pfriem Foundation awards The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport a grant of \$45,000 for Hunger Outreach Network

Continuing in their strong commitment to help address the growing problem of hunger in Bridgeport, the Trustees of the Norma F. Pfriem Foundation have donated \$45,000 to purchase food for distribution to people in need through 37 soup kitchens and pantries in the Hunger Outreach Network (HON), a voluntary collaboration of church and community providers coordinated by The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport (CCGB). The grant, the Foundation's fourth since 2009, will help put food on the tables of families at risk of going to bed hungry.

The grant is all the more needed because of the reduction of federal hunger funds to Greater Bridgeport through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). CCGB is the fiduciary for the HON, comprised of 17 soup kitchen programs (serving hot nutritious meals), 25 food pantries and three mobile kitchens. Over 2.5 million meals were served to hungry people in Bridgeport and the surrounding suburbs (Monroe, Fairfield, Stratford, Trumbull and Easton) last year, up from 2.2 million meals the previous year. These programs are based mostly in churches and community organizations but also include several municipal food pantries.

With the impact of the economic downturn and recent federal budget tightening, FEMA funds were reduced 25% in this new budget year. The grant from the Norma F. Pfriem Foundation helps fill that gap. Prior grants from the Foundation doubled food storage capacity, allowing hunger dollars to go further through bulk purchasing, especially of non-perishable food.

If you would like to help feed hungry people and add to the impact of the Norma F. Pfriem Foundation, visit our website at www.ccgb.org and click on the link to JustGive.org on the lower left of our home page. You can specify that you would like your gift to support Hunger Outreach.

Bridge Building Ministry ♦ CO-OP Center ♦ Hunger Outreach ♦ Janus Center for Youth in Crisis ♦ Project Learn

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