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GLEANERS RECEIVES \$50,000 GRANT FROM MORGAN STANLEY FOUNDATION

Funds will help boost food bank's produce distribution capacity

DETROIT (June 1, 2018) – Gleaners has received a \$50,000 grant from Morgan Stanley Foundation, allowing the food bank to increase its produce distribution and reach more people in the community with fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables.

Over the years, Gleaners has been increasing the amount of fresh produce it provides to hungry families. Last year, Gleaners distributed 18.7 million pounds of fresh produce, about 43 percent of its total food distribution of 43 million pounds.

The grant covers:

- Produce acquisition from Van Dyk Farms, a long-standing family farm in Imlay City.
- Additional produce acquisition (another 71,000 pounds of fresh produce) by working with Food Bank Council of Michigan to develop new produce sources, including new farmers beyond Michigan's border.
- Transportation of donated produce by investing an additional \$5,000 in freight costs that will allow an additional \$5,000 in freight costs that will allow Gleaners to source an additional 104,000 pounds of donated value-added produce.
- Walk-in cooler for Oakland Hope Client Choice Pantry in Pontiac, which will allow this Gleaners agency partner to store and distribute 25,000 pounds annually. The pantry is located in a historically high-need, underserved community.

“The grant will enable us to have a positive impact on the people we serve in many ways,” says Gerry Brisson, president and CEO of Gleaners. “Seniors on a fixed income sometimes are unable to afford fresh fruits and vegetables so this will help increase access. Our partners at Oakland Hope Client Choice Pantry will be able to serve more families who are struggling to make ends meet and often find themselves running out of food by the end of the month. We can help chronically ill patients lead healthier lives by providing more nutritious food to better manage their conditions. With Morgan Stanley's continued support, together we are building a healthier, more food-secure community.”

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About Gleaners Community Food Bank

For more than 40 years, Gleaners Community Food Bank has been "feeding hungry people and nourishing our communities." Annually, Gleaners reaches 430,000 food-insecure individuals with 43 million pounds of nutritious food, equivalent to more than 35 million meals, through 500-plus partner schools, soup kitchens, shelters, and pantries in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, and Monroe counties. Of every dollar donated, Gleaners uses 97 cents for food and food programs. One dollar provides three meals for a hungry neighbor. For more information, visit www.gcfb.org