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Media Contact: Kristin Sokul
248-626-0006
ksokul@tannerfriedman.com

GLEANERS NAMED FEEDING AMERICA'S FOOD BANK OF THE YEAR

National Recognition Honors Regional Commitment to New Approaches and Celebrates Outstanding Work

DETROIT (April 25, 2019) – Gleaners Community Food Bank, based in Detroit and serving five counties in Southeast Michigan, announced it has been named “Food Bank of the Year” for 2019, by Feeding America, a national association of more than 200 food banks.

"Gleaners Community Food Bank is an incredible organization that is making a huge impact in the lives of people in need in the Detroit area," said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. "From their focus on empowering children through education and volunteerism, engaging with volunteers, emphasizing fresh produce and nutritious food, to educating their community and partners in the work they do, Gleaners is a shining example of the difference a food bank can make in their community."

Feeding America judged its member food banks on such criteria as: leadership, strategic decision-making and collaborative partnerships. Gleaners excelled in its innovative approach toward achieving food security for the region.

“We believe it is possible to solve hunger,” said Gerry Brisson, president and CEO of Gleaners. “Discovering new ways to increase household impact for every dollar we spend, engaging with sectors like health care and education to reach food insecure people we’ve never been able to reach before, and staying focused on the benefits of food security for the whole community are important steps along the way. Our leadership, staff, board, donors and partners are all committed to finding and supporting client-centered programs that help us do both more and better. We appreciate the national recognition for our work in moving this vital mission to greater impact for the people we serve.”

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About Gleaners Community Food Bank

Headquartered in Detroit, Gleaners operates five distribution centers in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties and provides food to 528 partner soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters and other agencies throughout southeastern Michigan. In 2018, Gleaners distributed more than 43 million pounds of food to neighbors in need. On average, Gleaners distributes the equivalent of 96,348 meals each day and provides nourishing food to 430,000

people, including 171,000 children a year. Every dollar donated provides three meals and 93 cents of every donated dollar goes to food and food programs. For more information, visit www.gcfb.org.

About Feeding America

Feeding America® is the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States. Through a network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs, we provide meals to more than 46 million people each year. Feeding America also supports programs that prevent food waste and improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit www.feedingamerica.org, find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).