Step Up to the Plate!
Help the Greater Cleveland Food Bank and the Cleveland Indians Hit One Out of the Park in a Friendly Competition with Harvesters and the Kansas City Royals

Cleveland, OH – The Greater Cleveland Food Bank and the Cleveland Indians are teaming up to take on the Harvesters—The Community Food Network, and the Kansas City Royals in a friendly competition to fight hunger in our communities August 18-28.

Every day, thousands of families in our region are burdened with tough choices like – food or medicine? Lights or dinner? Rent or a meal? That’s why we have to Step Up to the Plate to fight hunger and help Northeast Ohians. Sportstime Ohio reporter Andre Knott joins us as the Honorary Chairman for Step Up to the Plate 2017.

“We’re grateful to the Cleveland Indians for their support,” says Kristin Warzocha, president and CEO, Greater Cleveland Food Bank. “Our hometown team has always been a tremendous supporter of the Food Bank as we feed thousands of hungry people today and work to end hunger tomorrow.”

“As we battle the Royals on the field, the Indians are excited to build upon our fans’ enthusiasm to take on the fight against hunger in our communities,” said Rebecca Koydosh, Indians executive director of community impact. “We love supporting the Food Bank, and we look forward to providing a big win for those in need.”

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank’s goal is to raise $10,000 and provide 40,000 meals in our community. There are several ways for Northeast Ohians to Step Up to the Plate and take a swing at hunger.

- **Donate Online:** Go to the Step Up to the Plate virtual food drive at [http://stepuptotheplate.today](http://stepuptotheplate.today). For every dollar donated, the Food Bank can provide enough food for four nutritious meals. Nearly 50% of those we serve are children and elderly. Help us provide nutritious food to those in our region who are facing food insecurity.

- **Participate in the Step Up to the Plate Food Drive on August 25, 26 and 27:** Please bring nonperishable food donations to Progressive Field when you
come to see the Indians take on the Royals on August 25, 26 and 27. Look for donation bins outside the gates. Our most needed items include peanut butter, cereal, tuna fish, canned soup, canned vegetables and beef stew.

- **Make a donation at the ballpark and receive a player autographed photo:** fans attending games during the August 25, 26 and 27 series can make a donation to the Food Bank on the concourse at section 155. For a donation of $20 or more, fans will receive an autographed player photo compliments of the Cleveland Indians Wives.

- **Round up your bill at the Indians Team Shop at Progressive Field** and make a donation to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank August 25, 26 and 27.

Fans can learn more and help by going to [http://stepuptotheplate.today/](http://stepuptotheplate.today/) to see all the action and support your hometown teams.

**About Greater Cleveland Food Bank**
The Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in Northeast Ohio, providing over 50 million meals in 2016 to hungry people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland and Richland counties. Our mission is to ensure that everyone in our communities has the nutritious food they need every day. We do this through both food distribution and SNAP outreach efforts. The best and easiest way to help is to go online: visit us at [www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org](http://www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org).

**Media Note**
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