



**Greater Cleveland  
Food Bank**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Greater Cleveland Food Bank Reaches 80% of Fundraising Goal for  
Expansion Project Aimed at Addressing Key Drivers of Food Insecurity**

*As GCFB Looks to Community for Support in Completing Campaign Goal, Phase 2 of  
Expansion Project is Underway at South Waterloo Community Resource Center*

CLEVELAND – June 20, 2023 – [The Greater Cleveland Food Bank](#) (GCFB) has raised 80 percent of its \$79 million capital campaign goal to support its multi-phase expansion project designed to meet the growing need for food assistance and address key drivers of food insecurity. To date, several of the Cleveland community’s most impactful foundations and generous corporate leaders and individuals have contributed to the campaign. Now, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank is opening the [campaign](#) to the community at large.

“On behalf of the capital campaign committee and Board of Directors, we want to thank the donors who are advancing our vision for creating food security in Greater Cleveland,” said Howard Lewis and Manisha Sethi, Campaign Committee Co-Chairs. “We have the ability and responsibility to address challenges with new ideas and creative solutions. We have a plan to provide food for all – and we need your support to make this vision a reality. The investments that are being made in our new and expanded facilities will have a tremendous impact on the community now, and for generations to come. We need help to get us over the top.”

For over 40 years, the Greater Cleveland Food Bank has been devoted to providing food assistance to people in need through a network of partner agencies in six counties. Today, the Food Bank is driven to do more. It is working to create food security tomorrow, by providing more nutritious food in the short term while also working to reduce the number of people who need emergency food in the long term by connecting them to nonprofit partners to address the underlying causes of food insecurity. The capital campaign, which began in 2020 to raise funds for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank’s largest expansion effort to date, is well on its way to achieving this audacious goal and is ready for the community to help accomplish it.

The expansion project includes the recently opened Partner Distribution Hub on Coit Road, Community Resource Center at South Waterloo Road (opening Fall 2023), and future resource centers on the south and west sides of their service areas. Dollars are also being raised to increase the capacity of the Food

Bank's partner network. The first Community Resource Center is currently under construction, transforming the former food bank headquarters into a "one-stop-shop" for clients.

"The Community Resource Center will be a place where clients will be given access to several partners and services all under one roof," says Kristin Warzocha, President and CEO of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. "The new facility is going to be a space that addresses the biggest drivers of food insecurity in our city and country – housing, healthcare, and employment, as well as many other additional resources. It will enable us to end hunger today, tomorrow and for a lifetime."

The new Community Resource Center, a "one-stop-shop" will include a client-choice food pantry with dedicated evening and weekend hours and an array of partners available to work with clients, providing access to resources and wrap-around support that will help clients overcome barriers to food security.

"With the help of our key Cleveland-area partners, this one-stop-shop environment will address the causes of food insecurity at its very core," says Warzocha. "Our impact at South Waterloo would not be possible without our non-profit partners, including [CHN Housing Partners](#), [Towards Employment](#), [MetroHealth](#), [Shoes and Clothes for Kids](#), [Family Connections](#), [Legal Aid Society of Cleveland](#), [Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging](#), [College Now](#), [Diaper Bank](#), [Future Plans](#), [MAGNET](#), [MetroHealth](#) and [United Way 211](#)."

The Community Resource Center will be located at the reimagined 15500 S. Waterloo site in the Collinwood neighborhood. Construction is expected to be complete in late fall of 2023. The exciting new space will offer an expanded client-choice food pantry, diverse client services, volunteers ready to serve and educational programming.

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank and Cleveland community are working toward the transformative vision for fighting hunger in Northeast Ohio. To contribute to the public phase of the campaign, go to [www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/FoodForAll](http://www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/FoodForAll) to learn more.

For media, interested in a tour, please contact Karen Pozna at [Kpozna@clevelandfoodbank.org](mailto:Kpozna@clevelandfoodbank.org).

### ***About the Greater Cleveland Food Bank***

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in Northeast Ohio having provided 49 million meals in FY2022 to nearly 350,000 hungry people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland and Richland counties. Our mission is working together 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 Food Bank continues to provide nutritious food to those in need while working to end hunger tomorrow through connecting clients to resources. With the help of the Greater Cleveland community, the Food Bank is advancing our vision for food security through a multi-phase expansion project. For more information about our organization and to contribute to the community phase of our capital campaign, go to [www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/FoodForAll](http://www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/FoodForAll).

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