



**Greater Cleveland  
Food Bank**

## **Media Release**

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*\*\*Please note: Miguel Zubizarreta is available for interviews on Friday, April 10 via phone, or other technology as is Kristin Warzocha as well.*

### **Denise and Miguel Zubizarreta and family make record gift to Greater Cleveland Food Bank for COVID-19 relief efforts**

**Cleveland, OH** - Denise and Miguel Zubizarreta, former Hyland Software Chief Technology Officer, and their family have made one of the largest individual gifts in the history of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. The family, of Bay Village, donated \$500,000 to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank this week to aid in the Food Bank's efforts to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. The Food Bank has seen a dramatic increase in demand over the last few weeks, distributing hundreds of thousands of pounds of additional food to partner programs in six counties and at drive thru distributions. This demand is expected to continue to increase into May and remain high for months beyond as layoffs continue and people remain out of work.

The Food Bank estimates that expenses for the next six months will be over \$15 million dollars, which is a 30% increase over their original budget, due to costs related to the rising need caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This gift will help meet the demand for more food to supply emergency boxes, bags of food for children who are out of school, and nutritious food that is provided to the roughly 800 partner agencies in the Food bank's six county service area that remain open to provide services to families and seniors in need.

Miguel Zubizarreta called the Food Bank on Tuesday to make a gift of \$500,000 and he hopes that their family's giving will inspire others. Miguel and his wife, Denise, were concerned that, as a result of this pandemic, many people could go hungry. Miguel said that his daughter was worried about kids no longer getting school lunches because the schools were closed and she told her dad that the Greater Cleveland Food Bank was helping.

"The need is there. The demand will be very high for the Food Bank. I look at the number of people who are becoming unemployed and the people living paycheck to paycheck and there are a lot of additional people who will be in need of food," said Miguel. "I have the food I need and I don't want to think about other people going hungry."



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“For everyone who is working, those of us who have and can, should give up to 1% of our paychecks to help our neighbors eat.” Miguel and his family want to inspire others to give during this difficult time for so many in our community.

“We are so incredibly thankful and grateful for this gift from the Zubizarreta family. It has been decades since we received a gift of this size from an individual donor, and it couldn’t come at a better or more important time,” said Kristin Warzocha, President & CEO of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

To donate to the Greater Cleveland Food Bank’s COVID-19 relief efforts, please go to [www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/Give](http://www.GreaterClevelandFoodBank.org/Give)

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