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Contact: C&B Scene
248.336.8360

scene@candbscene.com



GLEANERS INVITES COMMUNITY TO HELP KICK-OFF HUNGER FREE SUMMER CAMPAIGN *8th annual Campaign Launch Marks the Debut of "Vacation Station"*

(Detroit, MI - June 14, 2018)... **Gleaners Community Food Bank** (Gleaners) invites the public to join them at the **Emerald Springs Townhomes - Vacation Station** ([5825 Emerald Springs, Detroit, MI 48212](#)) on **Saturday, June 16, 2018** from **12:00pm - 3:00pm** for the official launch of the **8th annual Hunger Free Summer** (HFS) campaign. The 12-week program, part of Gleaners' **Making Investments in the Lives of Kids (MILK)** movement, runs through Labor Day with **Citizens Bank, Ford** and other generous donors matching all donations; every dollar donated provides six nutritious meals for southeast Michigan's hungry children.

New this summer, Gleaners is piloting a **Vacation Station** concept that will provide kids in the Emerald Springs community with healthy food while also offering a fun "summer camp" experience featuring music, physical and organized-play activities wrapped around lunch service. The Emerald Springs Vacation Station will be open to the public for two hours each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from Tuesday, June 19th to Thursday, August 16th.

The Vacation Station kick-off event will include:

- Detroit Pistons Mascot Hooper
- Meals for Parents and Children
- Local Police Representatives
- Magician / Balloonist
- Nutrition Education (w/Healthy Snacks!)
- Face Painting
- Live DJ
- Swag Bags for Children
- Mobile Food Pantry Distribution (30 lbs. of food for 100 families)

Gleaners' Hunger Free Summer program will reach children with nutritious food through several programs:

- 89 monthly mobile pantries that serve up to 100 families each, up from 79 last year.
- Nearly 90 total summer meal sites, serving over 150,000 total meals. More than half will also serve breakfast this year, and some will serve meals on Saturdays.
 - 17 new stationary and 4 mobile pantry sites throughout Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland
 - 13 housing complexes and 4 stationary sites will each receive 3 mobile pantries distributions throughout the summer.

Gleaners' HFS campaign supports programs that provide meals to children who risk going hungry during summer vacation. Nearly 300,000 children in southeast Michigan rely on free or reduced-price school meals; one in six southeast Michigan children are considered "food insecure" and can't rely on regular meals.

"Gleaners knows kids who don't have enough to eat face a summer nutrition gap that can contribute to academic struggles when they return to school," said Gerry Brisson, president and CEO of Gleaners. "The meals we raise through Hunger Free Summer offer immediate and much-needed relief and stability to those families, so their children can go back to school healthy and ready to learn. I'm grateful to Citizens and all of our match partners for making this possible."

Hunger Free Summer – Matched donations can be made:

- **Online:** www.HungerFreeSummer.org
- **Text:** "HFS" to 515-55
- **Telephone:** 855-315-FOOD (3663)
- **Checks by mail:** 2131 Beaufait, Detroit, MI 48207 (Please note "Hunger Free Summer" on memo line.)

Follow **#HungerFreeSummer** updates on [Facebook.com/Gleanersfan](https://www.facebook.com/Gleanersfan) & [Twitter.com/Gleaners](https://twitter.com/Gleaners)

Media Only: For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact: **C&B Scene:** [248.336.8360](tel:248.336.8360) | scene@candbscene.com



About the Hunger Free Summer Campaign

For many kids, summer vacation is something to get excited about. But for more than 150,000 food-insecure children in our community, instead of a time of excitement it's a time when they face hunger, robbing them of the joy and happiness of summertime and putting them at a disadvantage when school starts again in the fall.

Gleaners Community Food Bank created the Hunger Free Summer campaign in 2011 to ensure that no child goes hungry during the summer. In southeast Michigan alone, nearly 300,000 children receive free or reduced-fee meals. When the school year ends, so do the meals and the risk of hunger sets in for these children who often miss out on the healthy, wholesome food they need to grow, thrive, and play.

Citizens Bank, along with other generous donors, including Ford Motor Company, match donations dollar-for-dollar during the course of the campaign. Every dollar donated to Gleaners ordinarily provides three meals, but with the generous match during Hunger Free Summer, every dollar donated provides six meals for hungry kids.

Hunger Free Summer supports Gleaners Community Food Bank's programs that reach thousands of hungry children throughout southeast Michigan with nutritious food. Gleaners works with schools and community organizations to ensure a comprehensive and unified approach to tackling child hunger.

In 2017 Gleaners' **School Food Mobile** program reached hungry children in high-need communities with more than 300 distributions. Each distribution provided approximately 100 households with 30 pounds of nutritious food, including frozen meat and fresh produce.

Through the **Summer Food Service Program**, over 5,800 children at 97 sites received nutritious lunches in 2017. In 2018, Gleaners is focusing on bringing the entire family to food security and is piloting an exciting new concept called Vacation Station to reach more children in need.

Additionally, through Gleaners' extensive network of 499 partner soup kitchens, pantries, and shelters, the Hunger Free Summer campaign helps children and families bridge the meal gap during the summer.



Our Partners

Underwriting Partner and Match Donor:



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Match Donor Supporters:



Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services works with community and global partners to advance driving safety, education and community life. Ford Motor Company Fund has operated for more than 65 years with ongoing funding from Ford Motor Company. Ford Driving Skills for Life is free, interactive, hands-on safety training focused on skill development and driving techniques, while addressing inexperience, distractions and impaired driving. Innovation in education is encouraged through Ford Blue Oval Scholars, Ford Driving Dreams, Ford Next Generation Learning and other innovative programs that enhance high school learning and provide college scholarships and university grants. The Ford Volunteer Corps enlists more than 30,000 Ford employees and retirees each year to work on local projects that strengthen their communities and improve people's lives in more than 40 countries around the world. For more information, visit <http://community.ford.com>.



In 1989 when **Andiamo** opened its first Italian restaurant, the goal was simple – deliver fine Italian cuisine by using the freshest seasonal ingredients and prepare them from scratch each and every day. This goal set by the late Master Chef Aldo Ottaviani was achieved and as a result Andiamo exceeded all expectations, expanding to nine metro Detroit locations. Andiamo has never strayed from its founding principles and continues to provide exceptional service and authentic Italian cuisine prepared by hand every day. Visit andiamoitalia.com for more information and to find a location near you. <http://andiamoitalia.com/>

**Toni Wisne Sabina
Foundation**

In honor of **Toni Wisne Sabina**'s long-time support for Gleaners' mission to feed our hungry neighbors. <https://twsfoundation.org/>



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The **United Dairy Industry of Michigan** is dedicated to serving Michigan's hardworking dairy farm families. UDIM is the umbrella organization for the Dairy Council of Michigan and the American Dairy Association of Michigan. They believe milk is a natural beverage that delivers nutrition, health, and true local flavor. Their dairy farm families proudly produce milk in their communities using state-of-the-art practices to ensure it is wholesome and fresh. UDIM is committed to raising awareness of the benefits of consuming dairy products among generations of Michigan residents. <https://www.milkmeansmore.org/>



Underwriting Partner & Match Donor



Facts & Resources

Child Hunger in Michigan

In southeast Michigan, nearly 300,000 children receive free or reduced-price meals in school.

According to [Kids Count in Michigan](#), 2018:

- The number of kids relying on school-provided meals is remaining steady in 4 out of the 5 counties that Gleaners serves.
- 17% of children in Michigan live in households that were food insecure at some point during the year, an increase of 2% over the previous year.
- Students from families with incomes below 185 percent of the poverty level are eligible for free or reduced prices in the federal School Lunch Program.
- Nearly one in five Michigan children (21%) live in poverty, with household incomes under \$24,339 for a family of four.
- More than half (51%) of Detroit's children live in poverty.

Child Hunger in America

- 1 in 6 kids in America live in households without consistent access to enough food. ([Nokidhungry.org](#))
- 74% of educators see students who regularly come to school hungry. ([Hungerinourschools.org](#))
- 20 million children rely on SNAP benefits. ([Hungerinourschools.org](#))
- 46% of children from low-income families say hunger hurts their performance in school. ([Hungerinourschools.org](#))

The Devastating Impacts of Child Hunger

Developmental Impact

According to Feeding America, children who face hunger are more likely to:

- Require hospitalization or face higher risk for chronic health conditions, such as anemia and asthma.
- Repeat a grade in elementary school.
- Experience developmental impairments like language and motor skills.
- Have more social and behavioral problems.

Read more at <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/impact-of-hunger/child-hunger/child-development.html>.

Other partners in our work:

Feeding America

As the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, Feeding America network members supply food to more than 37 million Americans each year, through a network of more than 200 member food banks. www.feedingamerica.org.

Food Bank Council of Michigan

The Food Bank Council of Michigan (FBCM) is a statewide organization that gathers food and funds to help stock Michigan's food banks. www.fbcmich.org.

Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan Announcement

Gleaners Community Food Bank announces the sponsorship of the Summer Food Service Program for Children. Free meals will be made available to children 18 years of age and under or persons up to age 26 who are enrolled in an educational program for the mentally or physically disabled that is recognized by a State or local public educational agency. The meals will be provided without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Lunch meals will be provided at the following sites. To find more sites in your community call 211 (toll free number).

Detroit Sites

Alberta W. King	Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation (dhdc)
Brewster Homes	Detroit Martial Arts Institute - Life Skills
Calumet Townhomes	Ebenezer (ECCC)
Cher (Coner)'s Place	Hope of Detroit Academy (entire district)
Cornerstone	I AM Movement Youth Program/ I Am That I Am Ministry
Diggs Family Homes	Inspiring Today's Youth/Cutting Edge Ministry
Emerald Springs	Lafayette Daycare
Forest Park	Leland Community Affairs Inc.
Fountain Court Coop	One Michigan for the Global Majority
Jefferson Square	Positive Images II
Martin Luther King	Regent Park Scholars Academy
McDonald Square	Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church
Smith Homes	Rock International Church
Sojourner Truth	Second Grace United Methodist
St. Aubin	SER Metro-Detroit
Woodbridge Estates	Sowing Empowerment and Economic Development (SEED)
Alkebulan Village	Summer Jam Day Camp
Belle Isle Nature Center	Temple of Faith Baptist Church/School
BGCSM - Dauch Campus	The Salvation Army Conner Creek Corps
BGCSM - Holden	The Salvation Army Detroit Temple Corps/ Community Center
BGCSM Lloyd H. Diehl Club	The Way of Holiness COGIC
Cathedral Church of St. Paul/Minds in Action Inc.	Timbuktu Academy
Cesar Chavez Academy Middle School	True Love Christian Ministries
Cesar Chavez- Upper Elementary	University Prep High School
Cesar Chavez Lower Elementary	University Prep Science & Math Elementary
Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History	Urban Link Village (Evergreen) - Rosedale
Chasity Ministries	Urban Link Village (Votrobeck) - Renaissance Village
Chosen Generations Community Center	WSU Community Health Pipeline
City Camp	WSU Math Corps Site 1 (State Hall)
Conant Ave United Methodist Church	WSU Math Corps Site 2 (Manoogian Hall)
Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences	Yunion (partnership with WSU)
Detroit Edison Public School Academy	

Inkster Sites

Community Up Project
Demby Terrace
Dozier Recreation Center
Inkster Educational Center for Human Excellence/Inkster Boys & Girls Club

Lemoyne Gardens Community Center
Moore Circle
Parkside Estates

Other Site Locations

Cordova Courts -Clinton Twp.	Beech Elementary-Development Centers -Redford
Academy of Warren -Warren	Gateway Townhomes -Romulus
John F. Kennedy Memorial Park -Eastpointe	New England Town Houses -Roseville
Affirmations Community Center -Ferndale	Bradford Academy -Southfield
Hamtramck Housing Commission -Hamtramck	Hope United Methodist Church -Southfield
Momentum Academy -Hazel Park	The Courtyards and The Springs -Taylor
Ernes T. Ford Fieldhouse Highland Park	Kidz Den Daycare 2 -Warren
George Washington Carver Academy -Highland Park	Shadylane Estates -Warren
Highland Park Renaissance Academy -Highland Park	Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center / City of Westland
Manchester Place Apartments -Highland Park	

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