

Media Contact 100+ Women Who Care: Wendy Moyle
Email: wendymoyle@shindigz.com
Phone: (260) 418-9951

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Phone: 260-418-9951

PRESS RELEASE
PHOTOS: ATTACHED

Community Advocacy Group, 100+ Women Who Care Fort Wayne, Donates \$28,000 to Community Harvest Food Bank

Fort Wayne, Ind. (May 12, 2020) - 100+ Women Who Care Fort Wayne, a nonprofit advocacy group with 198 women members, last week donated over \$28,000 to Community Harvest Food Bank, an organization which has alleviated hunger in our community through the full use of donated food and other resources for over thirty years. Checks from members continue to 'roll in', so the total number is expected to be over \$29,000.

With a mission of supporting and bringing awareness to Allen County non-profits and a mantra of "We are stronger together", the 100+ Women Fort Wayne group has donated over \$677,950 to local non-profits since its inception in 2013. Parkview Hospital, the group's sponsor and community partner, supported the donation with an additional \$10,000 contribution.

For the 2nd quarter, 2020 donation, and in lieu of a face-to-face meeting, the group elected to donate to a non-profit deeply in need during COVID-19. The donation amounts were voluntary to allow members to give what they felt most comfortable giving during this time when so many are impacted both physically and economically by COVID-19.

"While we understand there are literally 1000's of local non-profits that need our support right now, we felt supporting a "primary" need would have the biggest impact. There was no way for our community to plan for this unprecedented health and economic crisis; the need is vast," said Wendy Moyle, steering committee member of 100+ Women Who Care.

Below are the facts that helped guide the group's decision:

- ALL money raised will go directly to the Farm Wagon's mobile pantry program. This program, through the Community Harvest Food Bank, is open to **anyone** in need.
- In a two-week period (April 1- April 17), distributions grew nearly **50%**.
- Community Harvest Food Bank has needed to purchase **73%** more food in the past two months than they did the entire previous year.
- Northeast Indiana had **42,279** unemployment claims in the first three weeks of the coronavirus shutdown (March 15-April 4). In comparison, there were fewer than 5,000 YTD before mid-March for the same region.
- Northeast Allen County had more unemployment claims in the first three weeks of the crisis than any of the other 11 regions in the state.

“As designated first responders in disaster relief, it is essential for us to reach all pockets of food insecurity in households that COVID-19 has turned upside down. This donation will have an enormous impact on kids, seniors, Veterans, and families who desperately need assistance,” said Carmen Cumberland, Executive Director of Community Harvest Food Bank.

100+ Women Who Care Fort Wayne, is a national concept with chapters in almost every state. It started locally in 2013 with a Steering Committee of 9 women and a goal of growing the group to well over 100 women. Today, there are 198 members. This 100+ Women Who Care group is open to all women wanting to donate \$100 quarterly to local not-for-profits selected by the group at quarterly informational meetings. At each quarterly meeting, three women are selected at random to give a brief presentation on a local charity of their choice. The group then votes and the winning charity receives \$100 from each member of the group. There is no overhead and all proceeds go directly to the charity.

100+ Women Who Care To learn more about 100+ Women Who Care or to become a member, visit <https://www.facebook.com/100pluswomenwhocarefw> or contact Wendy Moyle, wendymoyle@shindigz.com or (260) 418-9951.

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