



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MIDWEST FOOD BANK JOINS PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHIER  
AMERICA'S HEALTHY HUNGER RELIEF INITIATIVE**

NORMAL, IL – Midwest Food Bank has joined the Partnership for a Healthier America's (PHA) Healthy Hunger Relief initiative to further uplift the health and well-being of the communities they serve. Midwest Food Bank will work with PHA, the national nonprofit organization fighting for food equity formed in conjunction with former First Lady Michelle Obama, to address hunger, malnutrition, and chronic disease by increasing the supply of healthier options and decreasing the supply of unhealthy options.

"PHA's Healthy Hunger Relief partners serve as the foundation of our mission to transform the food landscape in pursuit of food equity," said Nancy E. Roman, President & CEO of Partnership for a Healthier America. "Through our work together, we're ensuring that communities and families all across the country have access to healthier, high-quality, culturally relevant, and nutritious foods."

Midwest Food Bank, along with 29 other new Healthy Hunger Relief partners, will receive support from PHA to implement a comprehensive nutrition ranking system developed by experts at Healthy Eating Research over the next two years. In addition, PHA will provide technical assistance to help partners understand the nutritional quality of their inventory and make strategic decisions within and across food categories to improve nutritional quality, enhancing food equity for the communities they serve.

Midwest Food Bank has received \$70,000 in grant funding from PHA to establish the foundation needed to implement a nutrition ranking system and to support the distribution of nutritionally dense fresh produce.

"Joining PHA is a step forward in our journey to increased nutrition in the food we distribute," says Jada Hoerr, Chief Resource Officer of Midwest Food Bank. "We are thankful for the collaboration and partnership."

PHA's Healthy Hunger Relief initiative currently works with 28 partners, reaches more than 7 million Americans, and has introduced 115 million pounds of healthy food into the emergency food system while removing 19 million pounds of low nutrition food. By welcoming 30 new partners to the program like [Midwest Food Bank, PHA's Healthy Hunger Relief work will double in reach and span across 18 states, impacting more than 14 million Americans with good food. PHA's Healthy Hunger Relief work is now in 30% of all food banks across the country.



PHA made a commitment last month to provide 50 million servings of vegetables, fruits, and legumes to food-insecure families by 2025. PHA's work with its Healthy Hunger Relief partners is part of this broader effort to meaningfully shift the food supply available in disadvantaged communities as the organization works to improve food equity across the country.

Midwest Food Bank has 12 locations, including 10 in the US, and one each in East Africa and Haiti. For more information about Midwest Food Bank, please visit their website at [midwestfoodbank.org](http://midwestfoodbank.org).

*Midwest Food Bank ("MFB") is a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) charity. As a faith-based organization, it is the mission of Midwest Food Bank to share the love of Christ by alleviating hunger and malnutrition locally and throughout the world and providing disaster relief; all without discrimination. Our vision is to provide industry-leading food relief to those in need while feeding them spiritually.*

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**If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Jada Hoerr at 309-291-0900 or email [jhoerr@midwestfoodbank.org](mailto:jhoerr@midwestfoodbank.org).**