



Media Release

Fight MATC Student Hunger Partnership and Challenge Grant

Date: Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 10 AM

Place: Milwaukee Area Technical College, 700 West State Street, Room S120

Contact: Dr. Michael Rosen 414-467-8908

Alderman Jose Perez, MATC students, the Believe in Students FAST Fund and Pete's Fruit Market announced Wednesday a "*Fight MATC Student Hunger*" partnership and challenge grant to assist food insecure students.

Alderman Jose Perez who previously served on the MATC District Board said, "I am delighted that Pete's is working with the FAST Fund to provide it with discounted food cards for MATC's food insecure students. I know that students who are hungry cannot succeed academically."

Martha Tsitiridis, the owner of Pete's Fruit Market, said, "Poverty and hunger are major problems in Milwaukee. My father, Pete, and my family have been dedicated to working in and serving under-served communities. Pete's partnership with the FAST Fund and the students it serves is another way for us to help"

"As students returned to campus this fall, the FAST Fund has been swamped by requests for help. Fortunately, we received a challenge grant of \$1000 to kick off the 'Fight MATC Student Hunger' partnership with Pete's," explained Dr. Michael Rosen, the Director of the FAST Fund, a non-profit organization providing financial assistance to MATC students experiencing economic emergencies. "We urge others in the community to join us by contributing to this effort. Our goal is to raise at least \$3000 to help MATC students who are hungry and or homeless," Rosen added.

Almost 50% of MATC's students go hungry and nearly 20% are homeless according to a survey conducted by the college. A Temple University HOPE Center national study reported that 48% of community college students and 41% of four-year university students were food insecure.

"The FAST fund came to my rescue when I was broke and hungry. As a result, I was able to successfully complete my semester studies," explained India Blunt, an MATC nursing student.

To contribute to the FAST Fund send checks to Believe in Students, Inc. 739 West Juneau, Milwaukee, WI 53233 or online at <https://www.thefastfund.org/ways-to-donate>. If donating online be sure to indicate your contribution is for the "FIGHT MATC Students Hunger campaign."

For more information call 414 467 8908



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All Contributions are Tax Deductible

