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REALTOR® FOUNDATION HELPS WISCONSIN CHILDREN IN NEED

The Wisconsin REALTORS® Foundation (WRF) launched a multi-year campaign to help feed hungry children throughout Wisconsin with a \$50,000 initial contribution to Feeding Wisconsin to help stockpile their six food banks and 1,000-plus food pantries throughout the state. The Foundation will follow up with additional fundraising and organizing REALTOR® volunteers.

“We are committed to helping children in need throughout Wisconsin and our partnership with Feeding Wisconsin will help us achieve that goal, one family, one meal and one child at a time,” said WRF Chairman Mike Spranger, a broker with First Weber REALTORS® of Wisconsin Rapids.

Citing Feeding Wisconsin statistics, Spranger noted that \$7 feeds one child, three meals a day, for a week. “We will measure our success not by how much money we raise but by how many meals we can provide,” said Spranger. He noted there are over 16,000 REALTORS® in every corner of the state and the Foundation hopes to mobilize them to help food pantries bridge “the last mile” and deliver the food to needy families.

The WRF’s “Make It Better” campaign is dedicated to helping Wisconsin children in one of four areas: education, hunger, homelessness/abuse, and serious illness. “We are focusing on food insecurity and closing the hunger gap because 182,156 Wisconsin children go hungry each day,” Spranger said. “That’s one in six children in our state. We can, and we must do better.”

Spranger noted that feeding hungry children not only helps a child that day, but also helps that child over time. “Access to nutritious food is vital for a child’s physical and developmental growth,” he said. “We want to help families avoid the agonizing choice between paying their mortgage, rent and heating bills or providing adequate food for their children,” Spranger said.

According to Spranger, REALTORS® are committed to their communities and helping hungry children is a meaningful way the profession can help build a place to call home. “Our goal is to give back and pay it forward,” Spranger said. “We hope to marshal not just REALTORS® in this effort, but our customers, clients and entire community.”

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