

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Human Development Commission receives \$40,000 Grant from the Walmart Foundation to Support Commodity Food Distribution

Donation brings a new heavy-duty box truck to assist in the monthly delivery of 77,250 pounds of food to local communities of Huron, Lapeer, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola counties in 2016.

CARO, MI – February 2016 – Today, Human Development Commission received a \$40,000 grant from the [Walmart Foundation's State Giving Program](#) to assist with distributing 77,250 pounds of food to an average of 2,575 recipients on a monthly basis. Specifically, this grant will positively impact the local community by fighting food-insecurity which is especially important for vulnerable populations like the elderly where the role of nutrition becomes even more important as one ages.

"We are so pleased that Walmart selected the Human Development Commission to be the recipient of this grant. It will assist us in alleviating hunger in our service area" said Lori Offenbecher, Executive Director.

The grant was presented to Human Development Commission by Ryan Leppek, Caro Walmart Store Manager.

"At the Walmart Foundation, we understand that organizations such as Human Development Commission are essential to building stronger communities. They share our values and are committed to helping those in need live better," said Ryan Leppek, "Through this donation, we are hopeful that many local residents will benefit from the donation".

The Human Development Commission is one of 29 Community Action Agencies and serves the rural counties of Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, and Tuscola in the "thumb" area of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Characteristic of Community Action Programs, HDC uses realistic, practical approaches to fight poverty at the local level. Given the complex set of circumstances representative of people who live in poverty, the agency's mission statement – *Restoring Hope by Helping People and Changing Lives* – underpins its commitment to fight conditions of abuse, homelessness, hunger, joblessness, and other life circumstances. As an example, since 1983, HDC has administered a Commodity Food Distribution program in the "thumb" region, plus two additional counties, Saginaw and St. Clair.

The Walmart Foundation's State Giving Program supports organizations that create opportunities so people can live better, awarding grants that have a long-lasting, positive impact on communities across the U.S.

To be considered for support, perspective grantee organizations must submit applications through the Walmart Foundation State Giving Program's online grant application. Applicants must have a current 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in order to meet the program's minimum eligibility criteria. Additional information about the program's funding guidelines and application process are available online at www.walmartfoundation.org/stategiving.

About Philanthropy at Walmart

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are committed to helping people live better through philanthropic efforts. By operating globally and giving back locally, Walmart is uniquely positioned to address the needs of the communities it serves and make a significant social impact within its core areas of giving: Hunger relief and healthy eating, sustainability, career opportunity and women's economic empowerment. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are leading the fight against hunger in the United States with a \$2 billion commitment through 2015. Walmart has donated more than 1 billion meals to those in need across the country. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit foundation.walmart.com.

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