TOLEDO NORTHWESTERN OHIO FOOD BANK RECEIVES $4,000 DONATION FROM THE DARDEN FOUNDATION TO HELP END HUNGER

Toledo, Ohio — The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank announced today a $4,000 grant from The Darden Foundation to help provide hunger-relief to Northwest Ohio families. The funds will be used towards program infrastructure at the Food Bank’s new North Side Pantry Project in North Toledo. This project will provide direct food services as well as community lab access.

“The North Side Pantry Project is a new initiative to combat hunger in the Toledo area food desert by providing a new source of healthy foods for the residents of North Toledo. With limited options for healthy food access in North Toledo, the health of the neighborhood has suffered significantly, making the need for a service such as the North Side Pantry Project vital for residents of North Toledo.”

The Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank, a member of the Feeding America® network, is one of 193 food banks to receive this funding from The Darden Foundation. It is projected that this grant will enable the Toledo Food Bank to fund several initiatives, including its new North Side Pantry Project in North Toledo.

The Darden Foundation is committed to supporting families facing food insecurity in communities across the United States. Their commitment to help is demonstrated through their partnership with Feeding America and their network of 200 food banks across the nation. In the last three years, Darden has contributed $12,000 in grant funding to support hunger relief work in Northwest Ohio.

Feeding America has worked alongside The Darden Foundation for seven years in the fight to end hunger. Thanks to their ongoing support, the Feeding America network has been able to help provide even more meals to families in need.

To learn more about the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank, visit www.toledofoodbank.org

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About Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank

Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank, Inc. is a non-profit organization established to enable other community organizations to end hunger. Over the past 35 years the TNWOFB has distributed more than 100 million pounds of food and grocery products to assist those in need. Currently, the TNWOFB serves a network of more than 250-member agencies in an eight-county area, including Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Williams, and Wood. Agencies include food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, non-profit daycare centers, non-profit rehabilitation centers, group homes and programs for the elderly and children. Since 1985, the TNWOFB has been an affiliate of Feeding America, the nation’s largest domestic hunger-relief organization. For more information on the Toledo Northwestern Ohio Food Bank, Inc. visit [www.toledofoodbank.org](http://www.toledofoodbank.org).

About Darden Restaurants and The Darden Foundation

Darden is a restaurant company featuring a portfolio of differentiated brands that include Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, Cheddar’s Scratch Kitchen, Yard House, The Capital Grille, Seasons 52, Bahama Breeze and Eddie V’s. Our people equal our success, and we are proud to employ 185,000 team members in more than 1,700 restaurants. Together, we create memorable experiences for nearly 400 million guests each year in communities across North America. The Darden Foundation works to bring to life our spirit of service through its philanthropic support of charitable organizations across the country. Since 1995, The Darden Foundation has awarded more than $90 million in grants to non-profit organizations such as Feeding America, National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) and American Red Cross. For more information, please visit [www.darden.com](http://www.darden.com).