



FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH UNITED SERVICES

2511 – 8th Street South, #242, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 • (715) 422-2050

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2021

FOCUS ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS FOR RELOCATION

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. – Feeding Our Communities with United Services (FOCUS) is proud to announce a community campaign to raise \$250,000 to obtain the funds needed to complete its relocation project and build needed operating funds. FOCUS is leasing and renovating part of the facility located at 2321 W. Grand Avenue in Wisconsin Rapids. This new facility will bring several services under one roof, allowing clients, volunteers and donors to have one location, saving time and overhead costs. The location will have a commercial kitchen, a dining area and dedicated unloading and food storage areas.

FOCUS was formed in 2020 when three local nonprofits merged to better combat food insecurity in the South Wood County area of Wisconsin. The South Wood Emerging Pantry Shelf, The Neighborhood Table and Rapids Family Backpacks will now be operating within one centralized location. This will allow FOCUS to provide services such as warm meals and monthly food allotments more efficiently to community members in need while also offering convenience to the many volunteers who believe in the needed services FOCUS provides to our community. With the additional space, FOCUS can better combat food insecurity and collaboratively develop additional related services in the South Wood County area.

Recently, Connexus Credit Union's philanthropic program, Connexus Cares, announced a dollar-for-dollar match of donations up to \$125,000 for the FOCUS community capital campaign. Boyd Gustke, Connexus President & Chief Executive Officer, stated "Offering services in one central location through FOCUS makes it significantly easier for those in need to obtain the help and resources that will truly make a difference in their lives. Connexus is proud to match up to \$125,000 in donations to this great cause, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact it has on the future of our community."

FOCUS deeply appreciates the donation of community partner Connexus Credit Union, and now needs the communities' support to utilize this pledge and complete this community project. To show your support of the relocation project, please send your tax-deductible donation to FOCUS on the Future, 2511 – 8th Street South, #242, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494, or visit our website, www.FOCUSofSWC.org to donate electronically. Every dollar donated is a valuable investment in our community, combatting food insecurity and assisting so many across the South Wood County area.

###

