



Town of Palm Beach United Way

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Town of Palm Beach United Way collects more than 1,500 pounds of food during annual Food Drive

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Contact: Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919; aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

PALM BEACH, FL – The Town of Palm Beach United Way collected more than 1,500 pounds of food during its 9th Annual Empty Your Pantry Food Drive held April 4 through April 15, 2022 in Palm Beach. The drive also received \$2,000 in donations.

“We are thankful to the Palm Beach community for helping us collect so much food to distribute to families in need,” said outgoing Board Chairman **Mary Freitas**. “During the summer, many children aren’t receiving meals from school and there are fewer donations to pantries, so the food drive items we received will certainly help our partners fill the gaps.”

The food and cash donations were donated to two Town of Palm Beach United Way nonprofit partners: **Boca Helping Hands** and **CROS Ministries**.

Staff from the agencies collected the food from Palm Beach’s central fire station on Wednesday, April 20.

“We are so grateful for our partners at the Town of Palm Beach United Way for organizing the recent food drive, and for the generosity of all the members of the Palm Beach community who participated,” said Greg Hazle, Executive Director of Boca Helping Hands. “These donations will make a big difference to so many of our clients throughout Palm Beach County.”

Boca Helping Hands is a community-based nonprofit that provides food, medical and financial assistance, as well as education, job training and guidance to help individuals and families become self-sufficient.

CROS Ministries operates seven community food pantries throughout Palm Beach County, a hot meal kitchen, and a gleaning program that recovers produce from local farms.

“We are grateful to the Town of Palm Beach community for taking the time to come together to make this year’s food drive a great success!” said Ruth Mageria, Executive Director of CROS Ministries. “Your donations will go a long way in helping us serve our hungry neighbors not just today or tomorrow, but throughout the summer when our clients often need our assistance the most.”

Food Drive partners include the Henry Morrison Flagler Museum, Palm Beach Daily News and Palm Beach Fire Rescue.

Palm Beach Fire Rescue stations served as drop off locations for food items. The Flagler Museum hosted a drive thru collection on Saturday, April 9, 2022.

“Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue is honored to be part of such a great cause,” said Assistant Chief **Sean Baker**. “Our team enjoys seeing the fire station lobbies fill with food that we know will be donated to families in need. We thank the Palm Beach community for being so generous again this year.”

— end —

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