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Town of Palm Beach United Way collects hundreds of food donations during 12th Annual Empty Your Pantry Food Drive

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

PALM BEACH, FL – The 12th Annual Empty Your Pantry Food Drive received hundreds of bags of groceries to benefit food insecure children and adults in Palm Beach County. Dozens of bags of pet food were also collected. The drive was held March 30 through April 20 in partnership with **Field of Greens, Palm Beach Fire Rescue** and **Palm Beach Daily News**.

"We thank the Palm Beach community for participating in our annual Empty Your Pantry Food Drive," said **Roberta and Paul Kozloff**, General Campaign Chairs. "Access to food is more difficult in the summer, so we are grateful to our neighbors who have done their part to lessen the burden for struggling families in Palm Beach County."

Food was donated to two Town of Palm Beach United Way nonprofit partners: **CROS Ministries** and **The Glades Initiative**. Pet food benefited **Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League**.

CROS Ministries operates five food pantry locations throughout Palm Beach County, and one mobile food pantry. They serve communities across the county, from Belle Glade to Jupiter to Delray Beach. Clients include children, seniors, veterans, the unemployed, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and working families.

"CROS Ministries continues to be 'boots on the ground,' on the front lines, providing food to our brothers and sisters facing hunger and food insecurity," said Ruth Mageria, Executive Director of CROS Ministries. "Thank you for cleaning out your pantry and donating to help stock our food pantries. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference."

The Glades Initiative provides healthy food to over 3,000 people a month in the Glades region of Palm Beach County. Clients are very low income with limited access to transportation and technology.

"On behalf of the thousands of residents who will benefit from your generosity, thank you for caring about hunger in our community," said Karis Engle, President and CEO of The Glades Initiative. "We are grateful to be able to distribute the donated items to the hard-working families receiving food from our pantry each week."

Peggy's Pantry assists families located in Palm Beach County to feed their pets. Their goal is to keep families and their pets together and out of the shelter. In 2024, the pantry distributed over 400,000 meals.

"Thank you to everyone who has contributed by donating food, money, or their time," said Sue Berry, CEO of Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League. "We rely on the community to donate food and supplies to help keep the pantry stocked. We partner with many local organizations to distribute the food to the people and communities who need it most."

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