

# News Release



**Ilene Shapiro – Summit County Executive**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Summit County Employees Donate Funds and Food to Harvest for Hunger Campaign**

Throughout the months of March and April, Summit County officeholders and employees participated in the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank’s 2019 Harvest for Hunger campaign. County offices collectively raised \$5,431 and donated 2,173 pounds of food, which will provide more than 23,500 meals for those in need. Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro also participated in the Harvest for Hunger Celebrity Bagger Day on April 6 at the Portage Crossing Giant Eagle Market District.

“I am thankful for the generosity of each County employee who participated in Harvest for Hunger,” said Executive Shapiro. “Summit County is proud to partner with the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank year after year to make a difference in the lives of so many. This campaign helps thousands of Summit County families who turn to the Foodbank when they are in need.”

According to the Foodbank, the food insecurity rate in Summit County is 15.3 percent of the total population, and the child food insecurity rate is 19.9 percent. To help combat the rate of food insecurity, Executive Shapiro’s Department of Job and Family Services granted Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds to the Foodbank in December 2018. These funds, available through September 2019, are used to purchase food for distribution to local food pantries throughout Summit County.

“The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank is honored to partner with and receive support from the County of Summit,” said Dan Flowers, president and CEO of the Foodbank. “Executive Shapiro and her team continuously support the Foodbank and hunger-relief efforts in our community, and we’re so grateful for their support. They’ve participated in the annual Harvest for Hunger Campaign for many years, and this year helped raise the equivalent of more than 23,500 meals.”

The Harvest for Hunger Campaign is a collaboration between four food banks that collectively serve twenty-one Northeast Ohio communities, and is one of the nation’s largest food drives. As a

result of the campaign, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank and network partners will be able to provide over 5.2 million meals for the local community. One hundred percent of every dollar raised in the campaign goes directly to providing free food for individuals and families in need.

For more information, please visit <http://www.akroncantonfoodbank.org/>.



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