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March 23, 2020

To: Joint Special Committee on Coronavirus Response
From: Tom Mulhern, Executive Director
RE: Emergency Request

FOOD for Lane County is the regional food bank for Lane County. Our mission is to reduce hunger by engaging our community to create access to food. We accomplish this by soliciting, collecting, rescuing, growing, preparing and packaging food for distribution through a network of 157 social service agencies and programs; through public awareness, education and community advocacy; and through programs designed to improve the ability of low-income individuals to maintain an adequate supply of wholesome, nutritious food. These programs include emergency food boxes, shelters, meal sites, rehabilitation facilities, nutrition education, gleaning and community gardens. Each year we distribute 8 million pounds of food, serving a diverse population of more than 70,000 people living on limited incomes, including children, families, seniors and single adults.

FOOD for Lane County seeks emergency funding from the state of Oregon to help cover the additional costs of distributing food to those in need in Lane County during the COVID-19 crisis. We are aware that the Oregon Food Bank has submitted a statewide request that includes \$2 million sought for emergency food purchase and distribution, and we fully support that request. Our request is specific to Lane County and reflects the needs and circumstances in our location.

We request \$200,000 in emergency assistance to support the following expenses during the three-month period April-June 2020 (more detailed breakdown attached). All are critical needs, but they are listed in priority order here:

1. Additional Staff Costs Related to Emergency Response	\$49,000
2. Additional Emergency Distribution Program Operating Costs	\$23,500
3. Emergency Food Purchases	\$127,500
TOTAL Request	\$200,000

Fundraising Note: In addition to the emergency needs included in this request, we are also looking at a potentially significant loss of fundraising event revenue because of the COVID-19 crisis. Our Chefs' Night Out event that attracts 1,200+ people was postponed from March 30 to June 1, but it appears likely that it will need to be canceled altogether (it typically nets close to \$100,000). Additional fundraising events that would normally net a combined amount of \$50,000 will need to be canceled. We are pursuing alternate virtual formats and online fundraising options, but the results of these efforts are unpredictable in the current environment.

FOOD for Lane County	
COVID-19 Emergency Request	
3/23/2020	
For emergency response period -- April-June 2020	
1. Additional Staff Costs Related to Emergency Response	
-- Temporary Emergency Mobile Pantries (4 days/week)	18,000
-- Temporary Emergency Meal Sites ("to -go" meals only)	13,000
-- Temporary Relief/Coverage for essential food preparation and distribution	18,000
Subtotal	49,000
2. Additional Emergency Distribution Program Operating Costs	
-- Boxes for Pre-Made Food Box Distribution (at temporary emergency pantries and regular pantries temporarily switching over to pre-made box distribution)	15,000
-- Truck fuel & maintenance for emergency operations	1,000
-- Hand sanitizer, gloves, paper grocery bags, to-go food containers, spray bottles, wipes	5,000
-- Pop up tents for emergency distribution sites	500
-- Toilet paper for delivery to homebound Meals on Wheels and Senior Grocery clients	2,000
Subtotal	23,500
3. Emergency Food Purchases (3 truck loads @ \$42,500/truck load) to help address following impacts:	127,500
-- Help make up for loss of community food drives (see note below)	
-- Provide specific high-need items (peanut butter, tuna, baby formula, etc.)	
-- Supply increased emergency distribution (via temporary mobile pantries and temporary meal sites)	
TOTAL Request	200,000
*Community Food Drives: As a result of COVID-19, the following food drives have already been canceled, which represent an estimated loss of 64,000 pounds of food: the Home & Garden Show, Trillium Fill-the-Truck, and most notable – the UO Spring Football Game.	
There is a possibility we may also lose the KVAL Can-Do food drive as well as our largest drive, The Letter Carriers' Drive on May 9th. Together, these two food drives are estimated to bring-in 105,000 pounds of food.	