



## For Immediate Release

### The Health Plan Donates \$50,000 to West Virginia Food Banks

**WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA**—April 27, 2020— The Health Plan announced today that they have selected ten (10) non-profit organizations, focused on feeding those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic, to receive five thousand-dollar (\$5,000) donations. All donations are currently in process and will be available to the following organizations by the end of April:

- Catholic Charities – Wheeling
- Soup Kitchen Greater Wheeling
- House of the Carpenter – Wheeling
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church – Wheeling
- St. Luke's Episcopal Church – Wheeling
- Christian Help – Morgantown
- Union Mission Ministries – Charleston
- Campbells Creek Church of the Nazarene – Charleston
- Old Man Rivers Mission – Parkersburg
- City Mission – Huntington

“Continuing our mission as a community health organization, it’s important for The Health Plan to focus available resources on those most in need throughout our state,” said John Wright, Board Chair and CEO, The Health Plan.

“These organizations serve the most vulnerable right here in our own backyard,” said Jeff Knight, President/COO, The Health Plan. “The current COVID-19 situation and the subsequent economic downturn have put a tremendous strain on local food banks, pantries and community kitchens. Our goal with these donations is to assist these local organizations in acquiring additional food and distributing those resources as quickly and efficiently as possible.”

“The Health Plan’s donation is a true blessing for the House of the Carpenter,” said Dr. Michael Linger, Executive Director, House of the Carpenter. “The COVID-19 crisis we are all facing has increased the number of individuals and families that are being challenged with food insecurity. These sorts of donations allow us to maintain our curbside deliveries and provide student food bags and weekend backpack food bags to local elementary schools.”

“We are grateful to community partners like The Health Plan for their help during this difficult time,” said Beth Zarate, chief executive officer of Catholic Charities West Virginia. “Families are under stress and uncertainty; donations such as this are critical in providing stability. Catholic Charities West Virginia is committed to staying present and working through this health crisis with the vulnerable populations we serve,” said Zarate, “The work we do is essential; without it, people go hungry.”

### About The Health Plan

As one of the largest locally managed care organizations in West Virginia, The Health Plan has a 40-year history of community and charitable giving. From sponsorship of local youth-focused asthma and diabetes camps to college scholarship programs and sponsorships of dozens of community events throughout the region, The Health Plan strives to make a positive and healthy impact throughout the geographic regions that we serve.

The Health Plan ([www.healthplan.org](http://www.healthplan.org)) is a clinically-driven, technology-enhanced, and customer-focused health maintenance organization that manages and improves the health and well-being of its members. Established in 1979, the West Virginia-based company, with offices in Wheeling, Charleston and Morgantown, West Virginia and Massillon, Ohio has offered a complete line of managed care products and services designed to provide health care systems and clients with innovative health care benefits and plans at a reasonable cost across the mid-Atlantic region and nationally.

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