



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City Manager James Freed Mobilizes Emergency Food Distribution and Meal Program in Response to SNAP Cuts

PORT HURON, MI — City Manager James Freed has announced an emergency response initiative to address the impact of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cuts that will begin on November 1, 2025 amid the ongoing federal shutdown. A coalition of private donors, community partners, and nonprofits have been mobilized to rapidly deploy resources and ensure no family in Port Huron goes hungry.

An initial deployment of five semi-trucks, each loaded with approximately 44,000 pounds of food, enough to feed 300-500 families, will be distributed to residents across the community. The first truck will arrive Monday at 9:00am at the YMCA of the Blue Water Area. Additionally, 5,000 meals, valued at \$15,000, have been fully funded through Mid-City Nutrition, expanding immediate access to hot meals for families, seniors, and children in need.

“As long as I am City Manager, I will use the full authority, influence, and resources of this office to ensure that no child goes to sleep on an empty stomach, and no mom or dad fears about their family going hungry,” said Freed. “With every box of food we hand out and every meal we serve, we affirm our duty to love our neighbors.”

Freed expressed deep gratitude to Josh Chapman of the YMCA and Sarah Jones of Mid-City Nutrition for their continued leadership and ability to act swiftly when the community needs them most.

“Josh and Sarah are the kind of people who make things happen for our community,” Freed said. “They are a true example of partnership in action.”

The urgency of this effort cannot be overstated. More than 8,000 households and 22,000 residents in St. Clair County are projected to lose access to critical SNAP benefits in the coming weeks. Local federal employees, including members of the United States Coast Guard, are also bracing for missed paychecks and disrupted services due to federal funding delays.

Freed emphasized that this initiative is not an act of charity, but a collective show of solidarity—a powerful example of how public and private partners can come together to meet community needs head-on.

Residents in need of assistance are encouraged to visit the YMCA of the Blue Water Area beginning Monday or contact Mid-City Nutrition for details on meal service times.

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