

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way Partners with New Berlin Food Pantry for Letter Carriers' Annual Food Drive

(April 27, 2011) – Waukesha, WI – United Way in Waukesha County is partnering with the New Berlin Food Pantry for the 19th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Food Drive, which is scheduled for Saturday, May 14.

The nation's largest food drive to combat hunger is held annually on the second Saturday of May in 10,000 cities and towns in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam. The one-day drive finds letter carriers nationwide collecting non-perishable donations from homes as they deliver mail along their route.

This year, United Way in Waukesha County and the Waukesha County Labor Council will be assisting the New Berlin postal workers by coordinating volunteers to follow the workers on their route and collect the bags of food. These volunteers will then take their car load(s) of donated food to the New Berlin Food Pantry.

New Berlin residents and those throughout Waukesha County are encouraged to leave a sturdy bag containing non-perishable foods such as canned soup and vegetables, canned meats and fish, pasta, rice and cereal next to their mailbox prior to their regular mail delivery on Saturday, May 14.

Jayne Thoma, executive director of United Way in Waukesha County, notes that the timing of the food drive is perfect. "As the school year comes to an end, many children will find themselves without the assistance of school lunch programs. While my heart goes out to anyone who suffers from hunger, it seems even more tragic that *children* are going hungry – especially in one of the wealthiest communities in the state. That is why we are supporting the efforts of the letter carriers."

Carriers last year collected a record 77.1 million pounds of food donations along their postal routes – pushing the total to more than one billion pounds since the drive began in 1992.

For more information on the local food drive, call United Way staff member Kurt Schmidt at (262) 547-8459 or visit www.UnitedWayWaukesha.org or www.facebook.com/United.Way.in.Waukesha.County.

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