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City Mission's Pop-up Pantries to Help Community

City Mission is partnering with the Washington County Community Foundation and other generous donors to provide pre-packed, emergency food bags to those in need during these difficult times. City Mission Thrift Stores and other local sites will act as distribution centers, or "Pop-up Pantries," to help reach those impacted by this crisis in Washington and the surrounding communities.

"Pop-up Pantry" locations and times, starting Monday, March 23 and continuing as long as supplies last:

- **Mondays** – in partnership with Washington County Community Foundation
 - 9am-11am Washington Thrift Store at 382 West Chestnut Street, Suite 110
 - 1pm-3pm United Presbyterian Church at 112 West Pike Street in Canonsburg
- **Wednesdays** – in partnership with Anonymous City Mission donors
 - 9am-11pm Waynesburg Thrift Store at 100 Greene Plaza
 - 1pm-3pm Belle Vernon Thrift Store at 370 Tri County Lane
- **Thursdays** – in partnership with Washington County Community Foundation
 - 9am-11am Monongahela Thrift Store at 159 West Main Street
 - 1pm-3pm City Mission Samaritan Care Center at 84 West Wheeling Street in Washington

"We're doing everything we can for those in need while still protecting our vulnerable resident population," said Sally Mounts, City Mission's Chief Development Officer. "The idea of the Pop-up Pantries came up in a discussion with Betsie Trew, the President and CEO of the Washington County Community Foundation."

On Tuesday, the Washington County Community Foundation (WCCF) announced the creation of their Close to Home Disaster and Emergency Fund, which provides grants to human service organizations serving Washington County, in response to local disasters and emergencies.

"When we learned of the first cases of COVID-19 in Washington County, that news hit too close to home and we knew we had to respond," said Betsie Trew. "Our goal in creating the Close to Home Disaster and Emergency Fund is to help provide the financial resources that our human services charities need to provide critical services such as the Washington City Mission's Pop-up Pantry program. This program will distribute food to financially distressed individuals and families at four different locations in Washington County."

Each pre-packed, emergency food bag will contain canned meats and vegetables and dry food goods such as cereal, rice, and pasta. Bags will be distributed until further notice or as long as supplies last.

"Along with WCCF, some of our own generous donors have joined the effort," added Mounts. "Our thanks to this wonderful organization and our amazing donors who truly believe in neighbors helping neighbors. We are excited to transition our stores, at this time, from Mission sustainability to community outposts capable of restoring hope to our neighbors in need."

Also, on Mondays from 3:30pm to 5:30pm, immediately following the Mission's Pop-up Pantry, at the United Presbyterian Church in Canonsburg, the Canonsburg-Houston Ministerial Association will be distributing bags full of lunch items for children of disadvantaged families.

City Mission continues to look for new ways to serve more people in more areas during these challenging times. You can support the City Mission's work with monetary donations at www.citymission.org. You can also support the Pop-up Pantry initiative by donating non-perishable food items to The Bible Chapel in McMurray, The City Mission

Warehouse at 1000 Sheffield Street in Washington, or to any of City Mission's seven Thrift Store locations. Go to www.citymission.org/shop for more information.