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## Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank Announces Expansion Project

*Grow Share Thrive virtual groundbreaking Wed., September 23 at 10 a.m.*

**Duquesne, PA (September 21, 2020)** – This Wednesday, September 23, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank will officially break ground on a renovation project of its existing warehouse facility in Duquesne. The project is expected to be completed in spring 2022.

The Grow Share Thrive campaign aligns with the Food Bank’s long-term bold goal, which includes providing access to more and healthier food across the organization’s 11-county service area in southwestern Pennsylvania.

A virtual groundbreaking ceremony will take place at 10 a.m., streamed live via the Food Bank’s Facebook page and unique campaign website [www.growsharethrive.org](http://www.growsharethrive.org).

“All people deserve a healthy and hunger-free life,” said Lisa Scales, President and CEO of the Food Bank. “One in nine of our neighbors, including more than 70,000 children in southwestern Pennsylvania struggle to have enough food to be healthy and thrive.”

With the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is expected that the number of people in our region who face food insecurity will increase by at least five percent.

As part of the overall comprehensive campaign, in addition to the building project, Grow Share Thrive will extend the Food Bank’s network of partners to include organizations that can reach individuals who do not go to a traditional food pantry. The Food Bank will also open a Community Pantry at its headquarters in Duquesne to test new ideas, provide training for partners and connect those who need food to expanded resources to help stabilize lives.

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“We are committed to doing more and it starts with us transforming the current food bank system to better meet the immediate needs of our neighbors, while addressing the root causes of hunger and inequality,” said Scales.

Long-term benefits of the comprehensive campaign will include growing the amount of food distributed with a focus on fresh and nutritious foods people

want and need. Additionally, the Food Bank will be able to share additional resources and invest in community partners, including schools, public agencies and healthcare providers to reach more people where and when they need help. Finally, the Food Bank is committed to helping the community thrive by providing greater access to, and information about services that help individuals and families get back on their feet.

“Grow Share Thrive is our vision and commitment to ending hunger and its root causes across our region,” said Scales. “By expanding our infrastructure and programming, all our neighbors will have food today, tomorrow and for a lifetime. We are building the Food Bank for the Future.”

**About Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank:**

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is a nonprofit organization that distributes food for nearly 40 million meals annually across 11 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania through a network of agencies, partners and programs. The Food Bank was founded in 1980 and is a member of Feeding America, the leading domestic hunger-relief charity in the U.S. For more information on hunger in our region or how to get involved, visit [www.pittsburghfoodbank.org](http://www.pittsburghfoodbank.org).

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