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Newport Avenue Market and Shoppers Raise \$45,031.50 to Alleviate Hunger

Jan. 6, 2020– BEND, Ore. – [Newport Avenue Market](#) customers, team members, and suppliers have proudly raised \$45,031.50 to help alleviate hunger in Bend. The money raised, as a result of the market’s Food for February fundraiser, will be used to purchase groceries at cost for [Family Kitchen of Bend](#), which should provide enough meals for an entire year.

Newport Avenue Market shoppers generously donated throughout the month of December and the employee-owned market matched the funds donated dollar-for-dollar, up to \$20,000. This program was designed to make the most of donation dollars, with Newport Avenue Market working closely with their wholesaler, SuperValu, to use the funds to selectively order thousands of pounds of fresh food from the Family Kitchen’s wish list.

Additionally, this year, shoppers at Oliver Lemon’s in Sisters, also graciously donated \$8,454 to the Food for February program, which Oliver Lemon’s matched up to \$5,000, for a total of \$13,454. All of these funds will stay in the Sisters community to support the Kiwanis Food Bank.

It is not commonly known that February is one of the hardest hitting months for hungry families in Central Oregon. Money is tight after the holidays, donations dwindle, and food pantries are depleted. Since 2011, Food for February has raised nearly \$270,000 for hungry families in Central Oregon, including \$129,000 in matching funds from Newport Avenue Market. “Thanks to shopper generosity, we are able to provide Family Kitchen with enough meals for an entire year,” said Lauren Johnson, CEO of Newport Avenue Market.

"I love working with the staff at Newport Market, placing our orders for our daily meals. They truly care about our diners and about making all of our interactions as smooth as possible." - Jan Hedges, Kitchen Coordinator at Family Kitchen

"I remember how I felt the first time the Newport Ave. Market folks told us that Family Kitchen was going to be the recipient of their Food for February program. I cried. And at the time, I truly thought it was simply food for just February! Boy, was I wrong! To have a local, employee-owned market involve not only their staff, but also their shoppers in this effort to bring quality ingredients to our diner population - it's just beautiful. Every year I get that same feeling all over again. And every week when that delivery appears and the diners come out to help unload - it's such a fantastic picture of an entire community in action for the benefit of all," says Donna Burklo, Program Director, Family Kitchen

About Newport Avenue Market

Since opening in 1976, Newport Avenue Market in Bend, Oregon, has been the No. 1 choice of Foodies in Central Oregon. A 100-percent employee-owned grocer, Newport offers shoppers both mainstream and hard-to-find food items as well as kitchenware and unusual gifts. A 20-time winner of “Best Grocery Store” in Central Oregon by *The Source Weekly’s* annual community poll, the market supports local producers, and offers an expansive selection of high-quality, in-demand food and beverage items, including 500 varieties of craft beer. For more details, go to www.newportavemarket.com.



About Family Kitchen

Guided by the belief that nobody should be hungry, the Family Kitchen has been providing meals to anyone in need since 1986. Family Kitchen serves three dinners and four lunches each week, averaging 4,500 meals per month served by over 250 volunteers. Our diners are treated with respect and are asked nothing but to leave with a full stomach. Family Kitchen operates as a separate entity sponsored by Trinity Episcopal Church (EIN 93-0427371). For more information, please visit www.familykitchen.org.

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