

****For Release on March 27, 2020****

Grace Care Center Adapting Choice Food Pantry to Serve Thousands During Crisis

NOBLESVILLE, IND. – March 27, 2020 - The Grace Care Center served more than 3,100 Hoosiers this week by offering those in need opportunities to select food pantry items and receive them through either drive-through or optional home delivery.

“We are adapting the normal operations of our Choice Food Pantry in order to serve the expanding number of families needing help in Hamilton County and northern Marion County and yet protecting both our volunteers and our clients,” said Marcus Casteel, Associate Pastor of the Grace Care Center at Grace Church. “We served more than 660 families representing more than 3,100 individuals this week and anticipate we will continue to increase our capacity in the weeks ahead.”

Families in need of food, personal hygiene products, or cleaning supplies can go online to place their order. Staff and volunteers then fill the order from the Grace Care Center Choice Food Pantry. Families can choose the time slot to pick up their grocery order or have the groceries delivered to their doorstep if they are limited in their travel. Next week, the Grace Care Center expects the demand to increase – with an expected 700 families seeking food and deliveries to 300 of those families. Grace Care Center volunteers are also beginning to make weekly phone calls to all families utilizing the Care Center to assess their current needs and provide additional assistance as necessary.

“This is an extension of the work the Grace Care Center has been doing weekly over the last eight years,” said Keith Carlson, Executive Director of the GCC Foundation, which helps fund the operations of the Grace Care Center. “We were able to give out more than \$30,000 worth of groceries this week because of the ongoing generosity of many community partners and individual donors. Last year we gave over \$1.3 million worth of groceries. Because of past community support, the Grace Care Center has been well-positioned to offer ongoing sustainable care to our community even as the need has grown.”

The Grace Care Center is receiving donations and Amazon deliveries at Grace Church, 5504 E. 146th Street in Noblesville. Go to gracechurch.us/carecenter for more information. The GCC Foundation is also receiving financial donations to support the Grace Care Center at gccfoundation.us.

In January of this year, the Grace Care Center opened a brand new expanded Choice Food Pantry with the capacity to serve 1,200 families each week over three shifts. Along with the Pantry, normal operations include English Classes, Vehicle Services, and One-to-One Coaching to help clients move towards long-term sustainability in their life. More than 2,000 volunteers served in the Grace Care Center last year. The Grace Care Center opened in July, 2012.

About Grace Church

Grace Church is a non-denominational Christian church based in Indianapolis, Indiana and led by Pastors Dave and Barry Rodriguez. Founded in Westfield in 1991, Grace now operates three church campuses: *Noblesville Campus*-5504 146th, Noblesville, Indiana, *Fishers Campus*-12450 Olivo Rd, Fishers, Indiana, and *North Indy Campus*-8450 Westfield Blvd, Indianapolis, Indiana. More information about Grace Church in Indianapolis can be found on their website www.gracechurch.us. Follow

@GraceChurchIN on Instagram and find Grace Church on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GraceChurchIN.

About GCC Foundation

The GCC Foundation exists to instill hope, dignity and sustainable change for all people while transforming the lives of those who give and serve. GCC Foundation was created to raise support to expand facilities to maximize efficiencies of the Grace Care Center without compromising relationships or impact of programs. The GCC Foundation supports multiple community outreach efforts through the Grace Care Center, including a choice food pantry, vehicle repair services, professional referral services, and ESL classes. More information about the GCC Foundation in Noblesville can be found on their website www.gccfoundation.us.

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