



**FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH UNITED SERVICES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **FOCUS Neighborhood Meals moves to West Grand location**

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, Wis. – Feeding Our Communities with United Services (FOCUS) now has all three of its original founding services in its new location at 2321 West Grand Avenue. The FOCUS Food Pantry and FOCUS Family Backpacks moved to the new location earlier this year, and last week, the FOCUS Neighborhood Meal program completed its move to the new facility.

According to Jen Concklin, operations manager of FNM, “while the move to the new location has been long in coming, we are excited to finally have us all in one building, uniting our services to combat food insecurity in our area. We are thankful to all of the volunteers who have helped us make this move possible.”

Meals for the first two Thursdays of December will be served as to-go’s to give volunteers, cooks and meal coordinators time to get acclimated with their new surroundings. Then beginning on December 15<sup>th</sup> and thereafter, meals will be served in-house on Thursdays.

FNM had been serving meals at the United Methodist Church on Garfield Street since January 2015. Concklin commented, “UMC has been so generous to us over the years and gracious in allowing us to host meals there until we were able to move to the new location. Thank you, UMC, for all you’ve done!” The last meal served at UMC as to-go meals was Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The meal program, formerly known as The Neighborhood Table, was organized in 2003 and has served 306,862 meals since that time.

### **About FOCUS**

FOCUS was formed in early 2020 when three local nonprofits merged to better address food insecurity in the South Wood County area of Wisconsin. Those services included the South Wood Emerging Pantry Shelf, The Neighborhood Table community meal program and Rapids Family Backpacks program. Those services are now known as FOCUS Food Pantry, FOCUS Neighborhood Meals and FOCUS Family Backpacks. Operating these services within one centralized location allows FOCUS to provide warm meals and monthly food allotments more efficiently to community members in need while also offering convenience to the many volunteers who believe in the services provided by FOCUS.

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