



For Immediate Release
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Media Contact: Julia Schick, 440-283-9888
jschick@laketran.com @Laketran

Lake County Mobile Food Pantry expands distributions to Madison, Painesville and Wickliffe

Mobile Food Pantry dates set through September

Lake County, OH – The Lake County Mobile Food Pantry will continue to provide free, fresh produce to Lake County seniors through a weekly distribution at locations across Lake County.

The Lake County Mobile Food Pantry is a retrofitted 12-passenger Dial-a-Ride bus operated by Laketran. With its traditional passenger seating replaced with shelving, the retired bus is now providing fresh produce to thousands of Lake County seniors.

Fresh produce distributions are Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Through September, the Lake County Mobile Food Pantry will alternate distribution locations between Lake Erie Church in Madison, New Hope Baptist Church in Painesville, Wickliffe Senior Center and Mentor Park-n-Ride.

“Not only are we expanding locations, but also the number of individuals we can serve each week,” shared Laketran CEO Ben Capelle. “The Foodbank will also be providing dairy boxes at various times throughout the summer offering fresh milk and cheese.”

New distributions dates/locations are:

Lake Erie Church, 2300 Hubbard Road: June 7, July 5, August 2, September 6

New Hope Baptist Church, 428 Jackson Street: May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13,

Wickliffe Senior Center, 900 Worden Road: May 17, June 28, July 19, August 16, September 20

Mentor Park-n-Ride, 8650 Market St: May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27

Lake County seniors, 60 years and older, may register for one pick-up per month. Participants must certify annual gross household income is at or below \$25,759 for a household of one and \$34,839 for a household of two. Pre-registration is required for the 75-95 spots available each week.



To register for a pick-up, call Lifeline at 2-1-1 or the Council on Aging at 440-205-8111. Participants can call Laketran at 440-354-6100 to arrange a ride to pick up your produce.

The program is a collaboration between Laketran, Lake County Commissioners Senior Services, Lake County Council on Aging, Lifeline and the Greater Cleveland Foodbank. The agencies work together to secure food donations and each play a role in taking reservations, managing volunteers and distributing the food.





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“The Lake County Mobile Pantry is a great example of agencies coming together to care for some of our most vulnerable citizens,” said Commissioner John Hamercheck. “We applaud the efforts made by all the agencies involved in making this program a continued success.”

In 2021, the Lake County Mobile Food Pantry served 8,618 total individuals and distributed 388,440 pounds of food to residents in need. Lifeline and Council on Aging fielded 3,000 phone calls for program reservations and the Lake County Volunteer Network donated over 3,100 volunteer hours to keep the program operating smoothly.

“Lake County is so grateful to the dozens upon dozens of volunteers who are stepping up to expand the distributions of free, fresh produce and food to seniors in need. When I have been blessed to volunteer for the Lake County Mobile Food Pantry, I have seen the good Laketran is doing for our community first-hand. This is wonderful news,” said Commissioner John Plechnik.



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