

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, ON OR ANYTIME AFTER AUGUST 26

SUBJECT: Merchants Bank to Hold Bundle Up Drive as Part of MBA Community Impact Month in September

Apple Valley, Lakeville and Rosemount, Minn. – This September, Merchants Bank is launching its company-wide “Bundle Up Drive” as a part of [Minnesota Bankers Association \(MBA\) Community Impact Month](#) to address the growing need for warm clothing and coats within its communities.

“We’re looking forward to facilitating community support for our friends and neighbors through the Bundle Up Drive,” said Market President, Dan Vlasak. “Community Impact Month is another way for us to highlight the incredible partnerships and commitment within our communities.”

The demand for warm clothing and coats continues to rise annually, with national organizations like One Warm Coat reporting a 30% increase in requests for assistance each year since 2020. This alarming trend means that thousands of community members may be forced to choose between essential needs like food and adequate warm clothing.

“For generations, Merchants Bank has been a steadfast partner in our communities, built on a foundation of trust and shared vision for success,” said President & CEO, Greg Evans. “We’re honored to be a part of MBA Community Impact Month and look forward to the collaborative community effort during our Bundle Up Drive.”

The “Bundle Up Drive” takes place the whole month of September and community members are invited to donate new warm clothing and coats (hand-made items welcome) in the Apple Valley, Lakeville or Rosemount branch lobby. Bank leadership has placed a special emphasis on donations for children, as they are often most in need. The items collected will directly support the local nonprofit, 360 Communities. Acceptable donations include:

- Winter jackets
- Snow pants
- Scarves
- Hats
- Mittens and gloves
- Warm socks
- Long-sleeve shirts
- Sweaters
- Fleece pullovers

Minnesota Bankers Association Community Impact Month is an annual initiative held every September, encouraging member banks across Minnesota to partake in community service activities.

Merchants Bank participates in philanthropic efforts throughout the year, including their annual [10 Days of Giving](#) in December. Last year alone, the Bank’s commitment to the community included \$521,004 in charitable donations company-wide, support for more than 440 organizations through donations or volunteer work and over 11,000 volunteer hours completed by our dedicated team members.

Merchants recently celebrated 150 years in business, being founded in Winona, MN on July 17, 1875. Since it’s humble beginnings as the working man’s bank of Winona with \$100,000 in assets, it has grown to include more than [20 bank locations](#) in southeastern Minnesota and west-central Wisconsin. Merchants now has more than \$2.7 billion in assets and is one of the largest banks in the state of Minnesota. Member FDIC.