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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Escambia and Santa Rosa County credit unions unite in support of Manna Cares Campaign**

Pensacola, FL (May 11, 2020) – Eight Escambia and Santa Rosa County credit unions have made a collective \$57,500 contribution to the Manna Cares Campaign – a fundraiser benefitting Manna Food Bank. Gulf Winds Credit Union, Pen Air Federal Credit Union, Harvesters Federal Credit Union, Members First Credit Union of Florida, My Pensacola Credit Union, Santa Rosa County Federal Credit Union, Central Credit Union of Florida, and Gulf Power Company Employees Credit Union made the gift in support of Manna’s COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.

“I am humbled by the generosity of our local credit unions,” said Manna Executive Director DeDe Flounlacker. “To keep up with our community’s need, we have purchased more food in the last six weeks than we have in the last six years! And, we need to purchase more. This donation makes that possible.”

In response to the effects of coronavirus, Manna has focused on supporting the needs of at-risk, vulnerable populations served pre-COVID-19, as well as those who suddenly find themselves unemployed or with reduced hours. As a result, Manna has nearly doubled the amount of food distributed to accommodate the needs of our community. Manna is also facing the challenges of canceled and postponed food drives and the postponement of the nonprofit’s annual fundraiser.

“In times of crisis, you have to come together to support the community,” said CEO/President of Gulf Winds Credit Union Chris Rutledge. “I’m proud that our local credit unions are willing to step up to help people struggling with the profound impact of COVID-19.”

The Manna Cares Campaign goal is \$200,000, the equivalent of 120,000 meals for neighbors in need in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.

Donations to the Manna Cares Campaign can be made online at www.mannahelps.org or by sending a check to Manna, 3030 North E Street, Pensacola, FL 32501. All donations will support Manna’s efforts to feed our neighbors in need and will remain in our local community.

For more information, please visit www.mannahelps.org.

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About Manna

Manna’s mission is to offer emergency food assistance, service the food-related needs of vulnerable populations, and engage the entire community in the fight against hunger. A local grassroots organization with no national affiliation or government funding, Manna provided food to 19,499 people last year. Manna operates a network of three emergency food distribution pantries and nine specialty programs with 10 community partners in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. For more information, please visit www.mannahelps.org.