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MEDIA ADVISORY

Geauga Transit Provides Free Rides to Food Pantries During SNAP Benefits Suspension

Geauga County, OH - More than 2,600 Geauga County residents — over half of them children and seniors — are affected by the federal government's suspension of SNAP benefits. To help ensure residents can continue to access food resources during this period, Geauga Transit will provide free rides to food pantries until SNAP benefits are reinstated.

"Geauga County is a community that looks out for one another," said Geauga County Commissioner Jim Dvorak. "When we learned how many of our neighbors could lose access to food assistance, we knew we had to step up. Providing free rides to food pantries is one way Geauga Transit can make sure transportation isn't a barrier to putting food on the table."

"Many of the people who depend on SNAP benefits are children and seniors, or individuals on fixed incomes," added Dvorak. "By offering free transportation to food resources, we're helping to make sure everyone can access the help they need during this difficult time."

Residents can schedule rides by calling Geauga Transit at 440-754-5555. Those looking for food assistance locations can call United Way's 211 hotline or the <u>Geauga Hunger Task Force</u> for information about local pantries and distribution events.

Geauga Transit will continue to monitor community needs and adjust service as necessary until federal SNAP benefits are restored.

To make a reservation for a trip on Geauga Transit, call 440-754-5555.

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