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FEATURED

TOPICAL

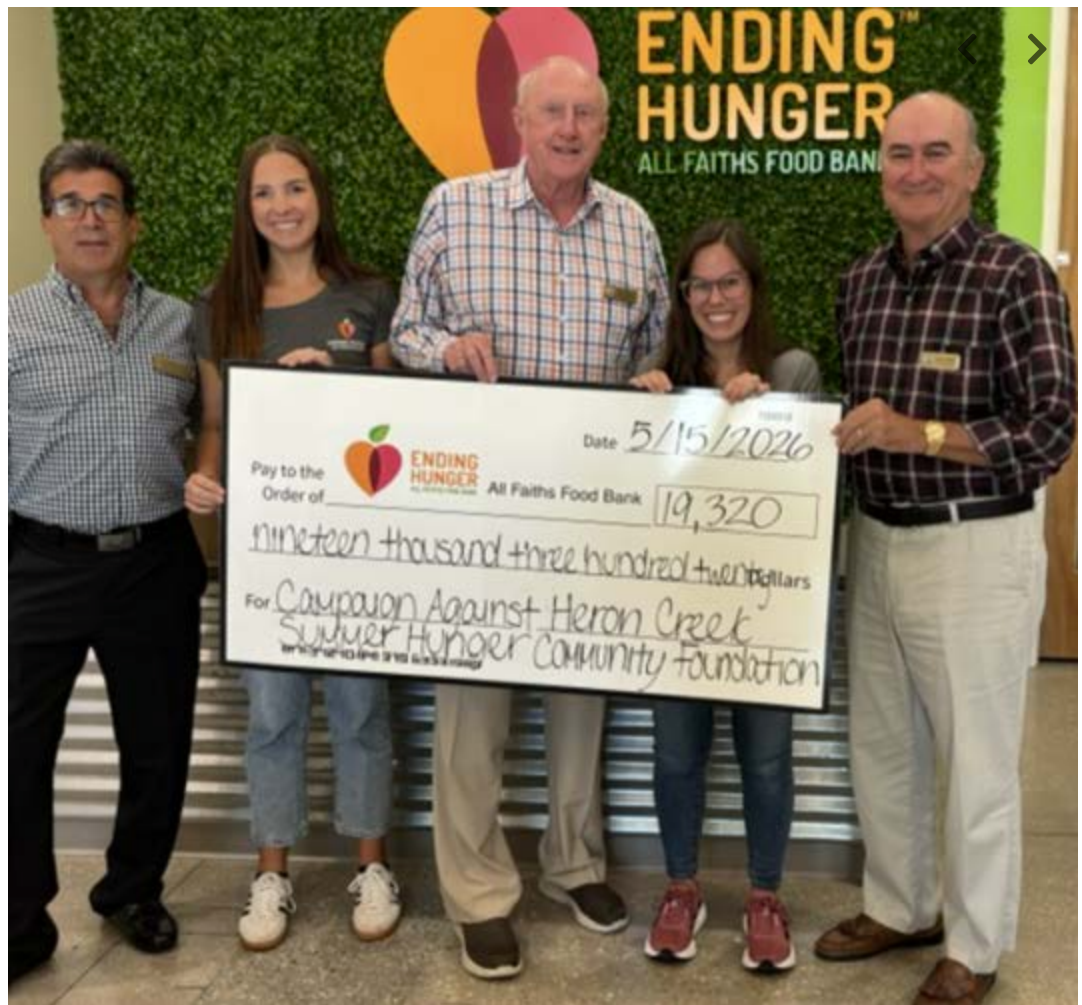
NONPROFITS

Heron Creek Community Foundation presents \$19K to All Faiths, tripled by anonymous donor

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Heron Creek Community Foundation recently presented a check supporting the All Faiths Food Bank. Picture Jess Lucas, AFFB; Tom Ferris, VP HCCF; Victoria Hasselbring, AFFB; and Kevin Smith, President.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY HCCF

NORTH PORT — All Faiths Food Bank received a fat check from a North Port nonprofit.

The Heron Creek Community Foundation raised and donated \$19,320 to All Faiths Food bank, according to nonprofit volunteers.

That total was then tripled by an anonymous donor, bringing the total amount donated to \$57,960.

HCCF hosts an annual food drive for the All-Faiths Food Bank that serves the city of North Port. The event, according to HCCF volunteers, is organized and managed by Heron Creek neighborhood volunteers working on behalf of HCCF.

The \$19,320 collected from the Heron Creek Community residents was the most successful drive to date.

HCCF is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life of the residents of North Port by financially supporting local nonprofits that help those in need.

In North Port, the Awaken Church is a prominent food bank fueled by All Faiths.

The North Port location, itself, serves around 1,000 people every day.

WIDER IMPORTANCE OF ALL FAITHS

Earlier this week, an All Faiths news release spoke about the importance of their services for children, specifically — especially with summer break starting soon.

“For thousands of local school children, the final bell of the school year signals the end of reliable daily nutrition. Approximately 43% of Sarasota County students, more than 19,000, and 100% of DeSoto County students, nearly 4,300, are eligible for free and reduced-cost meals at school. So, when school ends, hunger begins,” the news release states.



This year, All Faiths will partner with the Sarasota and DeSoto county school districts, and hundreds of community partners, once again, to feed children free, nutritious food all summer.

There are challenges though, according to All Faiths, due to budget cuts.

Sarasota County Schools, for instance, is expected to serve up to 17,000 fewer meals this summer.

But thanks to partners like HCCF, lead investors Charles & Margery Barancik Foundation, the Gulf Coast Community Foundation and others the organization is not alone in trying to help.

“We’re hearing from our team members who work on the front lines many stories of working families hit hard by the current economic conditions, with rising costs for gas, rent, childcare and healthcare. Now add to that the cost of providing 10 extra meals per week, per child, throughout the summer; hardworking parents are overwhelmed trying to figure out how to make ends meet,” said Nelle S. Miller, the president and CEO of All Faiths Food Bank.

“We are fortunate to have dedicated partners and a generous community that responds when our neighbors need help — thanks to their compassion and commitment, thousands of kids will have the food they need to thrive while school is out,” Miller said.

There will be 40 locations where food will be available throughout the summer.

To view the full list visit:

allfaithsfoodbank.org/summer-food-sites/

