

PRESS RELEASE

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Community Foundation Awards \$60,000 to Address Food Insecurity

March 20, 2020—The Community Foundation of Central Illinois (CFCI) is pleased to announce the 2020 Ending Hunger Together grant recipients have been selected. The proposals submitted by HEAL Food System Partners, led by the Tazewell County Health Department, and the Southside Farmers Market, led by the City of Peoria, will each be awarded \$30,000 to help address food insecurity issues in the community.

"We feel blessed to be able to continue to build the HEAL partnership into year two with working on Ending Hunger Together with the Community Foundation of Central Illinois. Our greatest success from year one has been to build trust between dedicated organizations working to improve healthy food access to our most vulnerable. This partnership tests the alignment of programming through 4 community-based projects. It is our hope that these projects will continue to produce wonderful outcomes, generate new and innovative ideas as well as foster healthy collaborative relationships between partners," says Kim Keenan of the Tazewell County Health Department.

"We are thrilled to receive the Ending Hunger Together grant and thank the Community Foundation for this tremendous opportunity. Our project centers around improving food access with and for the Southside neighborhood, and we look forward to engaging residents in our planning process as we build toward long-term solutions around economic, workforce, and community development."

– Martha Ross, President of Southside Community United for Change; Sara Maillacheruvu, Urban Planner with the City of Peoria; Kathie Brown, Community Education with Uofl Extension; and Tory Dahlhoff, Director of Rural Development, Greater Peoria EDC

"We are proud of the collaboration formed through the HEAL Partnership during the first year of CFCI's Ending Hunger Together grants program and the strides they have made addressing systemic issues related to food insecurity. We look forward to the increased community impact by continuing their grant funding, and also supporting the Southside Farmers Market though the City of Peoria," says Mark Roberts, President and CEO of the Community Foundation of Central Illinois.

About the Community Foundation of Central Illinois

Established in 1985, the Community Foundation of Central Illinois is a philanthropic resource committed to connecting people who care with causes that matter. For more information please call 309-674-8730 or visit communityfoundationci.org.