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**Proud United Way Blackhawk Region Agency Partner**

## Media Release

March 25, 2024

For additional information contact:

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### **Rock County Awarded Federal Funds – Eligible Agencies Urged to Apply**

(Rock County, WI) – Rock County has been awarded \$62,142 in Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) dollars through the Department of Homeland Security (Phase 41).

Any nonprofit, faith-based or local government agency that provides food and shelter services may apply for EFSP funds. EFSP funds must be used to supplement food and shelter services and may not be used as seed money for new programs. Agencies may receive funds to provide food, shelter and supportive services, including, but not limited to: food services, such as congregate meals or groceries; lodging in a mass shelter, or in a hotel/motel or other off-site shelter facility limited to 30- days assistance per individual or household; one month rent or mortgage assistance to prevent eviction or foreclosure; utility assistance for one month of service for gas, electric and water service.

Interested agencies must apply to the Local EFSP Board. Under the terms of the grant, local agencies chosen to receive funds must be 1) private, voluntary nonprofits with a voluntary board or units of government; 2) be eligible to receive federal funds; 3) have a UEI number and FEIN; 4) maintain a checking account in the organization's name for EFSP deposits; 5) pay vendors within 90 days for services provided; 6) practice non-discrimination; and 7) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs.

The Local Board of the EFSP Phase 41 is facilitated by Jessica Locher of ECHO and Kelsey M. Hood-Christenson of Family Services of S.W.A.N.I., and consists of representatives from the faith community, American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, Rock County government, and The Salvation Army Rock County. This Local Board is responsible for recommending how the funds will be distributed to local service agencies in the area.

Qualifying agencies encouraged to apply. For more information and application, visit [www.echojanesville.org/efsp](http://www.echojanesville.org/efsp). The deadline for applications to be received is Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

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