

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LOCAL FAMILIES TO RECEIVE THANKSGIVING CHEER**

Charlevoix – A popular giving program, Neighbors in Need, is spreading through the northern Michigan community. The employees of Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant will be collecting donations to supply local families with Thanksgiving meals. The Neighbors in Need program is in its fifth year in Harbor Springs, where it was started at Stafford's Pier Restaurant.

"We've really been inspired by the work done in Harbor Springs the past few years," said Jeff Sprecksell, General Manager of Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant. "Our employees are really embracing this program this year and are excited to be offering this to families in need right here in Charlevoix."

Employees from both locations work with local health and human service agencies such as the Salvation Army, local churches, Manna Food Project, the Charlevoix Area Food Pantry and the Women's Resource Center to identify families in need. They are also working closely with Charlevoix's teachers to seek families who would not request aid, but are grateful to be recipients.

As part of the program, Stafford's Weathervane Restaurant employees and other volunteers will raise funds for dinners, prepare and package them in the restaurant kitchen, and deliver the meals to area families.

Donations are being accepted from restaurant patrons and the community for this annual program. Donations of cash - from the full family dinner cost of \$120 - to any other amount, as well as volunteers, are being sought.

"Our staff wants to help make this Thanksgiving special for everyone," said Sprecksell.

To make a monetary or time donation, please contact Jennifer Donker or Jeff Spresksell at 231-547-4311.

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