

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL FAMILIES TO RECEIVE THANKSGIVING CHEER

Harbor Springs – Six years ago, employees at Stafford's Pier in Harbor Springs teamed with their guests to create the "Neighbors in Need" program. Complete Thanksgiving dinners are delivered to area families by volunteers who prepare, package and deliver the meals.

The staff at Stafford's Pier Restaurant works closely with *The Manna Food Project*, *Harbor Springs Food Bank*, *Women's Resource Center* and other agencies. Last year, 53 families enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, thanks to the generosity of Stafford's Pier staff and guests.

"There are so many families looking for help this year. On average, the pantries being served by The Manna Food Project have seen a 46% increase in the number of families they are serving. Some are up 100% over last year. The need is great - your neighbor is using a food pantry and every dollar you give can help feed this neighbor. By everyone doing a little, together we can do a lot," said Kathy Hart, Executive Director of the Manna Food Project.

"It is always our hope that the spirit of generosity will spread," said Jody Ewbank, General Manager of Stafford's Pier Restaurant. *"Those that deliver the meals, feel a privilege to be serving in the community, sharing holiday times with their neighbors, and making a difference in their lives. Stafford's Pier will work closely with Kathy Hart to reach as many people in our community as we can."*

To make a monetary or time donation, contact Carol Parker or Lindsey Walker at Stafford's Pier Restaurant, 231-526-6201 or pier@staffords.com.

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