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Media Contact:

Paige Woolery

Anna+Anton Olson Legacy Foundation

paige@anna-anton.org

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Anna+Anton Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge Generates Significant Community Support for Local Food Pantries

Georgetown, Texas — The Anna+Anton Olson Legacy Foundation (Anna+Anton) today announced the results of its inaugural *Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge*, a community-wide initiative that mobilized donations for local food pantries across Taylor, Hutto, and Georgetown.

During the month of April, the community donated more than \$77,000 in monetary donations and over 32,000 pounds in food contributions, significantly increasing support for four participating food pantry partners: Shepherd’s Heart Food Pantry, Agape Food Pantry, Hutto Resource Center, and The Caring Place.

This represents increases of approximately 99% in financial giving and 57% in food donations in comparison to average donation levels during a typical month for the food pantries. “We worked closely with each of the food pantry partners to understand their historical giving levels so we could determine the true impact from the Challenge.” Paige Woolery, Anna+Anton Community Impact Director

To launch the Challenge, Anna+Anton provided \$20,000 in seed funding, awarding each partner a \$5,000 grant.

In addition, the WD Kelley Foundation rose to the challenge, matching this contribution with an additional \$20,000, doubling the initial investment and further amplifying the Challenge’s impact. Their commitment to support the Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge

reflects our shared commitment to ensuring children have consistent access to essential resources like nutritious food.

“This Challenge is about neighbors helping neighbors,” said Larry Olson, founder of the Anna+Anton Olson Legacy Foundation. “We are incredibly encouraged by the way our community responded—coming together to support local food pantries at a critical time of year.”

“Because of your kindness and commitment, many families and children in our community will have access to the nourishment they need,” said Mary Flores, Executive Board Member and Founder of Agape Food Pantry. “Your partnership helps us continue our mission to bring hope, dignity, and practical support to those facing food insecurity.”

Preliminary results from the Challenge were first shared with a community gathering at the *Table on Talbot* event in Taylor, Texas on May 8th that celebrated Taylor’s 150-year birthday. Anna+Anton was proud to serve as the sponsor of this event, aligning with its mission to foster community engagement and highlight meaningful local initiatives.

The timing of the Challenge was especially meaningful. As schools close for the summer, many underserved K–12 students lose access to reliable school-based meals. The increased donations will help local food pantries prepare for this seasonal rise in need and continue serving families throughout the summer months.

The Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge was designed not only to provide immediate support, but also to build long-term awareness and engagement around food access in the community. Partners led outreach efforts throughout April, engaging individuals, families, businesses, churches, and civic groups to contribute food and financial donations.

2026 Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge Partners:

- Shepherd’s Heart Food Pantry (Taylor)
- Agape Food Pantry (Taylor)
- Hutto Resource Center (Hutto)
- The Caring Place (Georgetown)

“This level of generosity shows what’s possible when a community rallies around a shared purpose,” Olson added. “We are grateful for our partners, donors, and the WD Kelley Foundation for helping make this Challenge such a success.”

Anna+Anton plans to build on this momentum and continue the Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge as an annual initiative to strengthen local food support systems and ensure children have access to the resources they need to thrive

All Anna+Anton giving aligns with its three priorities:

- Inspire youth
- Prepare young people for the future
- Champion seniors

The Anna+Anton Olson Legacy Foundation honors the lives of Swedish immigrants Anna and Anton Olson, who settled on a farm outside Taylor in 1916. Their legacy guides the Foundation's commitment to big ideas, bold action, and building community across Taylor, Hutto, and Georgetown.

To learn more, visit www.anna-anton.org.

Appendix – Additional Quotes and Photos



Anna+Anton

“Each partner was clear that the Challenge positively impacted their ability to meet the upcoming summer needs for children.” Paige Woolery, Anna+Anton Community Impact Director

Agape Food Pantry

“Through the generosity of partners like you and our community, we were able to make a significant impact.” Mary Flores, Executive Board Member and Founder of Agape Food Pantry

Shepherd’s Heart

“The timing on this Grant just before summer was so timely and has made a huge difference in our ability to provide extra foods and financial support.” Cheryl Cornelius, Shepherd’s Heart Board Member

“This Summer Food Campaign has been extremely impactful for the families we will continue to serve and there will be additional foods and resources from which to serve the children at home for their summer school breaks! What a fabulous way to bring awareness to the food insecurity that hits families over the summer by offering tangible solutions through food drives and financial support!” Cheryl Cornelius, Shepherd’s Heart Board Member. [The following photos are from Shepherd’s Heart efforts during the Challenge.]



Hutto Resource Center

“We’re incredibly grateful to the A+A Foundation for including us in the Feeding Your Neighbors challenge. Not only did it raise awareness about food insecurity in our community, but it also opened the door to meaningful new connections - including the W.D. Kelley Foundation, which serves many of our neighbors in Williamson County.” Sandy Brockwell, Executive Director, Hutto Resource Center

“Connecting our long-standing collection bins - already part of the fabric of Hutto - with our ‘Stuff the Van’ initiative proved especially powerful. By meeting people where they are, we expanded our reach and strengthened our message.” Sandy Brockwell, Executive Director, Hutto Resource Center

The Caring Place

“The Feeding Your Neighbors Challenge was a good reminder that hunger doesn’t take the summer off. Our caring community responded enthusiastically to the challenge ensuring our pantry will be well stocked as we head into summer.” Ginna O’Connor, Executive Director, The Caring Place