

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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MANNA

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### **Manna's "From Hunger to Hope" Campaign Kickoff**

**PENSACOLA, FLA** (March 9, 2017) – On Monday, March 13, Manna officially kicks off its From Hunger to Hope Campaign. For almost 35 years, Manna has worked to help those struggling with hunger in Santa Rosa and Escambia counties. Area residents in need have received millions of meals because of Manna's commitment and dedication.

During the April 2014 floods, Manna suffered devastating losses of food supplies and equipment. For more than two years, Manna has cobbled together operations between four separate buildings, with roughly half of their former space. In the face of this, Manna still assisted more than 11,000 families last year alone.

With hunger touching more families than ever – 1 in 4 children in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties struggle to have enough food to eat – Manna's work cannot continue effectively under these conditions. In April of 2016, the organization purchased the former Pensacola Mill Supply building, a 23,000-square-foot building at 3030 North E Street. Now they need help to raise the more than \$1 million required to bring this new facility to life.

DeDe Flounlacker, Executive Director of Manna, sees the importance of this new location. "It's our future – 3030 North E is where Manna will grow and improve our service to the hungry. It's where tens of thousands of hungry children and families will be given hope. It's where people like you and me will come together to fight hunger in a meaningful, long-lasting and impactful way."

Moving into a larger, modernized facility will allow Manna to evolve their services, reaching the needs of more people, and also adding education and training opportunities for their clients. For Flounlacker, this is a critical need in the community. "There will always be a need for short-term emergency food assistance to help struggling families and individuals. But we know that to effect real change, we must identify the root causes that create hunger and proactively connect clients to resources that can help them with long-term sustainable solutions."

Donations for Manna's From Hunger to Hope Campaign can be made at [gofundmanna.com](http://gofundmanna.com).

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#### **Manna's From Hunger to Hope Campaign Kickoff**

Monday, March 13 - 2:00pm • 3030 North E Street, Pensacola

This event will feature speakers from our community who will discuss the importance of Manna's work to solve hunger in Santa Rosa and Escambia counties. It will also highlight the ways this capital campaign will enable Manna to do more – and do better – for our neighbors. Facility tours will be available.

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