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Saskatoon Physicians Supporting Local Families in Need

EMBARGOED Until 3 PM January 26, 2023

Location: Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre – 202 Ave. C South

Date: Thursday, Jan. 26th @ 2:30 PM

The Saskatoon Medical Staff Association (SMSA), a physician-led organization representing 1,100 physicians in the Saskatoon area, has donated \$50,000 to the Saskatoon Food Bank to help support patients struggling to feed themselves and their families. The donation was announced January 21st at a SMSA physician event.

SMSA president, Dr. Mary Kinloch, says that while the organization typically donates \$15,000 to worthy local groups each year, they increased that amount this year in response to a growing need in the Saskatoon area. "We recognize that people everywhere are struggling financially," says Dr. Kinloch. "SMSA hopes this donation helps our patients access the food they need to stay healthy."

When asked about the impact this donation will make in the community, Laurie O'Connor, Executive Director of the Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre stated "This generous donation is greatly appreciated as we have seen an alarming increase in demand for our emergency food service. With 1 in 4 children in our province experiencing poverty, it is remarkable to have SMSA stand with us to address food security."

SMSA Vice-President Dr. Carla Holinaty says many of her patients are struggling to access the healthy food they and their families need because of the dramatic increase in food costs. "We recognize that food security is one of the most important determinants of health and our patients need this security now more than ever," says Dr. Holinaty. "Saskatoon doctors wanted to do what we could to help the Food Bank keep people in our community fed and healthy."

SMSA is one of 12 medical staff associations under the Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA).

About the Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre

The Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre is committed to ensuring a food secure community where all people have access to safe, affordable, and nutritious food.

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For more information, or to arrange interviews, contact:





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saskatoonfoodbank.org

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