

The 8th Annual A Cup of Hope Raises \$208,000 for Northern Illinois Food Bank 450 guests gathered for the "Mad Hatter" themed Fundraiser

Geneva, IL (March 9, 2023) - <u>Northern Illinois Food Bank</u> and its Executive Women's Council are pleased to announce the 8th Annual <u>"A Cup of Hope"</u> fundraiser, presented by Nicor Gas, raised a record \$208,000 to enhance hunger relief initiatives and help to provide fresh, nutritious food so children across Northern Illinois can thrive.

The March 5th "Mad Hatter" themed afternoon tea was held at the Abbington Distinctive Banquets in Glen Ellyn – and back in person after two years of being virtual. A record 450 guests attended the event and enjoyed tea, desserts, a silent auction, raffle, and the magic of Scott Piner, an entertainer known for his engaging blend of humor and interactive performances.

The event was emceed by Emmy award winning journalist, Judy Hsu of ABC7 News and speakers included; Julie Yurko, President and CEO, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Noel Leatherbury and Michelle Borman, Executive Woman's Council Co-Chairs, and Krista K. Harris and Courtney Dutter, Executive Woman's Council's 8th Annual A Cup of Hope Co-Chairs.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Northern Illinois Food Bank. A special <u>video</u> about the Food Bank's history was featured during the program.

The Executive Women's Council of Northern Illinois Food Bank is made up of a group of 30 women working and living in Northern Illinois dedicated to solving hunger. The Council works in partnership with the Food Bank to enhance the Child Nutrition Program and support the Food Bank by engaging women to donate time, food and funds to help solve hunger in Northern Illinois.

To learn more or to join the Executive Women's Council, contact Anne Moore at amoore@northernilfoodbank.org. To make a donation, volunteer or get groceries, visit: SolveHungerToday.org.

ABOUT THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK

For the past 40 years, Northern Illinois Food Bank has been dedicated to solving hunger and empowering neighbors. Our vision at Northern Illinois Food Bank is for everyone in Northern Illinois to have the food they need to thrive. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and proud member of Feeding America, we serve our neighbors in 13 counties with dignity, equity and convenience, providing 250,000 meals a day. We bring together manufacturers, local and corporate grocers, area farmers, corporations, foundations, and individuals who donate food and funding, and each week nearly 1,000 volunteers help us evaluate, repack, and distribute food. We also proudly partner with more than 900 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and youth and senior feeding programs to provide nutritious food and resources. Our distribution centers are located in Geneva, Lake Forest, Rockford and Joliet. Find out how you can get help, volunteer, donate or get involved at SolveHungerToday.org, or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

For media requests, contact:

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