

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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### Gulf Winds Federal Credit Union

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## Local Credit Union Donates \$25,000 to Feeding the Gulf Coast, Victims of Hurricane Michael

**PENSACOLA, FLA** (November 5, 2018) – Gulf Winds Credit Union donated \$25,000 to **Feeding the Gulf Coast**. This donation will be used to deliver food and water to the most devastated areas impacted by Hurricane Michael — specifically parts of Bay County.

“The Bay County area is not far from our home, and we are so thankful to be in a place where we can donate to the relief efforts for Hurricane Michael,” said Chris Rutledge, President and CEO of Gulf Winds. Feeding the hungry is an impact area of the credit union’s community program, Gulf Winds Cares.

Cathy Pope, President and CEO of Feeding the Gulf Coast, said that the \$25,000 donation will provide 125,000 meals through their programs. “The response following this devastation has been amazing,” said Pope. “We are so thankful for community partners like Gulf Winds that are stepping up to help us make a difference for families impacted by this storm.”

Feeding the Gulf Coast is providing much needed food and water to individuals struggling in the affected Florida communities. They are currently working to strategically place additional emergency food distributions in the most storm-impacted areas. They are also in the process of trying to secure warehouse space near the affected area to be more efficient in serving these communities long-term. Feeding the Gulf Coast is fully committing their efforts, staff and resources to reach those whose lives have been changed by this catastrophe.

As of Sunday, October 28, 2018, Feeding the Gulf Coast has provided the following support to the impacted communities:

- **Water Distributed: 1,370,952 bottles**
- **MREs Distributed: 538,655**
- **Snack Items Distributed: 323,911**
- **Disaster Box Meals Distributed: 25,584**
- **Additional Meals Distributed: 20,687**
- **Produce Distributed: 20,943 pieces of fresh produce, including apples and oranges**
- **Volunteers Engaged: 200+**

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**About Feeding the Gulf Coast**

Feeding the Gulf Coast, formerly Bay Area Food Bank, serves a 24-county area spanning the Florida panhandle, south Alabama, and south Mississippi. In 2017, the food bank distributed over 19 million meals to over 400 church pantries, soup kitchens and other nonprofit organizations throughout its service area. The food bank also operates multiple hunger-relief and nutrition programs, including Summer Meals, Afterschool Meal, Backpack, Disaster Relief, Mobile Pantry and Produce Drop Distributions, and Nutrition Education. Feeding the Gulf Coast is a United Way member agency and a member of Feeding America. For more information, visit [www.feedingthegulfcoast.org](http://www.feedingthegulfcoast.org).

**About Gulf Winds**

Gulf Winds is a community financial institution serving members who live, work, worship and attend school in Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, Jefferson, Escambia or Santa Rosa Counties, Fla. and Escambia County, Ala. Gulf Winds serves more than 60,000 members and has branch locations in Tallahassee, Crawfordville, Pensacola, Gulf Breeze, Milton, Atmore, Ala., and Brewton, Ala. and additional information can be found on [GoGulfWinds.com](http://GoGulfWinds.com).