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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Need for Food Is Growing — And It's Real

Erie, PA – With ongoing government shutdowns and financial uncertainty, families across our community are struggling more than ever to put food on the table. At St. Martin Center, we've seen firsthand how deep this need runs — in just the past week, the number of families coming to our food pantry has *doubled*.

Our team works tirelessly to make sure no one goes hungry, but the rapid increase in demand is putting a serious strain on our resources. We've already had to reduce our pantry hours to manage the growing crowds, and if this trend continues, we may soon have to begin rationing food or offering smaller portions to ensure that we can continue serving everyone who needs help.

"The need is overwhelming," said David González, Chief Executive Officer. "People who have never had to ask for help before are now showing up at our doors. They're scared, they're hungry, and they're doing their best to get by."

St. Martin Center is calling on the community for support — whether through donations, volunteer time, or helping spread the word. Every contribution makes a difference and helps us continue to serve our neighbors with dignity and compassion.

Together, we can make sure that even in uncertain times, hope and help are still within reach.

Those wishing to donate can visit www.stmartincenter.org or drop off nonperishable food items at 1701 Parade Street from Monday thru Thursday 3-4 and Fridays 9-3:30.

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