

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BANTERRA BANK DONATES TOTAL OF \$50,000 TO AREA FOOD BANKS & PANTRIES; RECEIVES \$20,000 RELIEF GRANT AND BANTERRA CONTRIBUTES \$30,000

Marion, IL – Due to the critical food shortage, Banterra Bank is donating \$50,000 to twenty food banks and pantries throughout Banterra’s footprint of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri. The donation is made up of a \$20,000 relief grant for COVID-19-impacted community needs and \$30,000 contribution from Banterra.

“As soon as we discovered the relief grant opportunity, we knew that we needed to apply and use the potential funds for area food banks and pantries,” said Jeff May, president of Banterra. “Supporting food-collection organizations is something we do every year with donations including collecting food in our branches throughout November and December. We knew in these unprecedented times, we needed to do much more than our normal contribution.”

With COVID-19, food banks are facing a two-fold issue with an increase in food demand and a decrease in food donations. The national nonprofit, Feeding America, surveyed its food banks in mid-March, and results showed 92 percent had an increase need for food, while 64 percent said food donations had declined.

Banterra is distributing the funds to food banks, pantries and related food-distributing charities that serve the communities within their footprint. Those receiving donation include: Illinois - Carterville United Pantry, Central Christian Church, Christian Community Compassion Center, COPE Food Pantry, Crosswalk, Du Quoin Food Pantry, Friend of Jesus Equality, Good Samaritan House of Carbondale, Herrin Community Food Pantry, J.C. Manna Mission, Marion Ministerial Alliance, Roads Church, Shawnee Development Council, Vienna First Baptist Church Food Pantry, Wabash Area Development Inc. (WADI); Indiana – Newburgh Area Food Pantry, Salvation Army Family Center – Evansville; Kentucky – Family Service Society – Paducah; Missouri – Southeast Missouri Food Bank – Cape Girardeau.

Banterra Bank supports a variety of charities through donations, promotion and volunteerism, in addition to having ongoing charity fundraisers in their local branches throughout the year. In 2019, *Banterra* provided nearly \$775,000 through sponsorships and donations, as well as nearly 5,000 pounds of food to local charities and approximately 3,000 volunteer hours.

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, *Banterra* has \$2 billion in assets and is ranked in the Top Ten Percent of U.S. Charter Banks and Top Five Percent for Illinois Charter Banks, according to asset size. *Banterra* has 40 locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Arizona. In addition to offering a variety of personal and business banking products, *Banterra* provides services nationwide through specialty lending divisions including Aircraft Finance, Machine Tool Finance, Corporate, Transportation and RV and Marine Lending. *Banterra* also offers *Banterra* Insurance for auto, home, life, business and *Banterra* Investment services. For information, call 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to www.banterra.com.

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