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NEWS RELEASE

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FARMERS TO FAMILIES FOOD DISTRIBUTION CONTINUES IN OCTOBER

(BRISTOL, CT) – The Mayor's Office, United Way, and FoodShare are pleased to offer a series of three Farmers to Families Produce Distribution programs starting this Friday, October 2nd. Distribution will take place from 3pm-5:30pm at the new location--Lake Compounce Parking Lot. (185 Enterprise Drive). **Important to note that times are subject to change based on the arrival of the truck. To get updated information for these weekly deliveries, please call 860-582-9559.*

"The food boxes have been upgraded to include not only fresh produce, but also dairy and meat products," said Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu. "The free program is scheduled on the following Fridays October 2, 16, and 30th and is sponsored from a grant through the United States Department of Agriculture."

"The location has been changed to Lake Compounce to better accommodate the large number of vehicles participating, as well as to alleviate traffic in the downtown area," said Councilwoman Mary Fortier who has been heading the City's Covid/Bristol All Heart Response since last March. "We are very appreciative of Lake Compounce's generosity in allowing this operation to occur at their parking area, which is a much larger space and much safer from a traffic perspective."

The pallets of food boxes will be unloaded from the trucks and divided with volunteers at each station. The line of cars will be directed into drive-thru lines where the food will be placed into the back seat or trunk of each vehicle. The entire distribution is contact-less and adheres to all Covid precautions. The distribution event is rain or shine.

"Area soup kitchens and pantries are invited to pick up boxes, as are residents of the other United Way communities – Plymouth, Burlington and Plainville," said Donna Osuch President of the United Way. "The boxes are large, so we also encourage people to share with a neighbor or family members to ensure nothing goes to waste."

City of Bristol

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“With the change in location, we also recognize that there are some downtown residents who may not be able to travel to Lake Compounce,” said Councilwoman Brittany Barney who represents the downtown and Federal Hill neighborhoods. “We will be making provisions to bring a supply of pallets back to downtown for distribution. People who would like one should call United Way at 860-582-9559 to make a reservation and receive directions as to where it can be picked up.”

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