



MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA CENTRE
We all work together to help one another.



MEDIA RELEASE

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MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA AND HARVEST MANITOBA SEEK COMMUNITY SUPPORT / WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP VULNERABLE FAMILIES MEET FOOD NEEDS

For Immediate Release

(Winnipeg, MB) Today, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Executive Director, Diane Redsky and Harvest Manitoba President & CEO, Vince Barletta announced a new partnership to help support Indigenous families and children facing decreased food security in Winnipeg in the aftermath of the pandemic.

“Families living in poverty are significantly worse off today than before COVID,” said Diane Redsky. “We are now facing another pandemic of food and income insecurity for thousands of families in Winnipeg who face multiple barriers. It is no longer just about making ends meet anymore, it is about daily survival.”

At the end of June, the Government of Manitoba - Home Nutrition & Learning Program came to an end. This critical program supported vulnerable children and families with weekly food hampers designed to help low-income families cook meals at home and to meet their food security needs. Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata alone had supported 2200 families through this program over the past two years and is currently supporting 1000 families throughout Winnipeg.

The end of the Home Nutrition & Learning Program will leave thousands of families and children without critical food support which is expected to drive additional demand to Harvest Manitoba and its food programs.

“The Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre has worked proactively with Harvest Manitoba to help vulnerable families impacted by the end of the Home Nutrition and Learning Program,” said Vince Barletta. “Thank you to Diane Redsky and her team for offering important assistance to Harvest to ensure that we can meet the significant new demands that will be placed on the food security system in Winnipeg.”

Harvest Manitoba has already been experiencing record high demand for its food hamper program with over 35,000 individuals being served across Manitoba in the month of May including over 14,000 children. Both organizations are encouraging Manitobans to help support the expected influx of new families requiring food assistance in the months ahead.

“The Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre is honoured to partner with Harvest Manitoba on community-based solutions that gives dignified access to food and supports,” said Redsky. “Donations of food and volunteer time will go directly to filling the cupboards of families, seniors and many of our vulnerable relatives. Please help us help others.”

Families impacted by the end of the Home Nutrition and Learning Program are encouraged to contact Harvest to secure necessary food hamper support for their families.

Manitobans can help by supporting Harvest through additional donations of food, funds and volunteer time to meet the increasing need.

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata provides services within Treaty 1 Territory - homeland of the Métis Nation and traditional lands of our Anishinaabeg, Anishiniwak, Ininiwak, Dakota, Dene, and Inuit relatives. We have the privilege of accessing clean drinking water from Treaty 3 Territory. Visit www.mamawi.com to learn more about their important family support programs.

Harvest Manitoba helps to support the food security needs of 80,000 Manitobans through the collection and distribution of one million pounds of food every month. Harvest is working to build a healthier future for all where no Manitoban goes hungry through its network of over 350 agency partners. Visit www.harvestmanitoba.ca to learn more about how to help support the hamper program

-30-

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