April 8, 2020 Dear District Governor-Elect Sandy,

Thank you for your recent proposal that all Flathead-area Rotarians team up as we step up in response to COVID-19. "Stronger together" can multiply our impact during this crisis.

You suggested an all-Rotary Club effort to support the food bank. RC Kalispell has a project underway that would be even better with participation from our fellow Rotary Clubs! Here is our invitation.

Rotary Club of Kalispell has launched a \$10,000 donation challenge to raise critical funds for the Flathead Food Bank. Check out our "home video" at <u>https://youtu.be/bAXAh817Ak8</u> We would love to meet the match (let's go over the top!) by the end of April and invite you to join us! Here's how:

Click here to donate online and put **Rotary** in the memo. <u>https://tinyurl.com/flatheadfoodbank</u> You can also send a check to the Flathead Rotary Community Foundation (FRCF) at PO Box 481, Kalispell MT 59901. Please write **Rotary Food Bank Fund** in the memo. Thank you!

We salute the many wonderful food bank and food assistance programs serving our community and encourage all Rotarians to support the food bank or program of their choice. Among them: Bigfork Food Bank – www.bigforkfoodbank.org

Columbia Falls Food Bank – <u>https://www.foodbanks.net/organization/956/columbia-falls-food-bank/</u> North Valley Food Bank – <u>www.northvalleyfoodbank.org</u> Veterans Food Pantry – <u>www.veteransfoodpantry.org</u>

RC Kalispell also coordinated a weeklong series of KGEZ radio interviews to raise community awareness of food insecurity in the Flathead and to encourage support for food banks and food assistance programs during this time of peak demands for their services. The lineup includes: Flathead Food Bank, North Valley Food Bank, Veterans' Food Pantry, Columbia Falls Backpack Program and Kalispell Rotary on behalf of all Rotarians.

As each guest on KGEZ's Community Conversations has articulated so well, they and all other food assistance programs are in this together, working overtime and stretching resources to ensure that individuals and families have a reliable source of food for as long as they need it.

We will share sound files from these interviews as soon as KGEZ radio can make them available to us.

Whatever way each Rotary Club chooses to serve, we know it will make a difference for neighbors in need across the Flathead Valley. Thank you again for your leadership and cheerleading as we all step up to help our communities.

Sincerely, Rotary Club of Kalispell