

NBA AND WNBA LEGENDS DISTRIBUTE FOOD TO CLEVELAND FAMILIES DURING NBA ALL-STAR WEEKEND

-Team of Partners Providing Food Boxes to 500 CMSD Families at Drive-Thru Event-

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-- The [National Basketball Retired Players Association](#) (NBRPA), Cleveland

Metropolitan School District (CMSD) and Greater Cleveland Food Bank are teaming up to serve Cleveland families during [NBA All-Star](#) Weekend.



On Saturday, February 19, the [Legends Care](#) Drive-Thru Food Distribution at CMSD's East Professional Center will welcome families who have children attending CMSD schools and provide them with boxes filled with shelf-stable food items.

"It is extremely important that the NBRPA and our Legends give back to families in each NBA All-Star Game host city through our Legends Care programs," said Scott Rochelle, NBRPA President and CEO. "After learning that Cleveland's child poverty rate is consistently one of the country's highest, we knew that we wanted to make an impact in the fight against hunger and have assembled a powerful team of partners who are leaders in this space and are advocating for children and families every single day."

Statistics show that one in five children live in poverty in Cleveland. With 100% of CMSD's 35,696 enrolled students being economically disadvantaged, serving this student population at a CMSD site became top priority for the NBRPA.

"Hunger is one of the very significant barriers that our students and families face living in a city that ranks at the top nationally for child poverty," said Eric Gordon, CEO Cleveland Metropolitan School District. "It interferes with the ability of our children to learn and succeed. We are deeply grateful for the assistance that partners like the National Basketball Retired Players Association, and Greater Cleveland Food Bank provide to our families in need."

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank seeks to bridge the meal gap, ensuring that Cleveland-area

residents have the food they need each day. The Food Bank will be providing non-perishable items for the Legends Care Drive-Thru Food Distribution.

“We are proud to be a part of this effort!” said Kristin Warzocha, President and CEO of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. “We’re so honored to be included in this NBA Legends Care event where families are getting the nutritious food, they need to help them in these continued challenging times.”

Founded in 1866 in Cleveland, The Sherwin-Williams Company, a global leader in the manufacture, development, distribution and sale of paint, coatings and related products, rounds out this powerful Legends Care team as the official volunteer partner. Sherwin-William employees will be working alongside NBA and WNBA Legends providing an off-the-court assist for CMSD families.

“It is an honor to take part in an event that will have a positive impact on fighting hunger in our local community,” says John G. Morikis, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sherwin-Williams. “Our team is proud to celebrate Cleveland’s hosting of the NBA All-Star game by lending our support to the Legends Care Drive-Thru Food Distribution. We want to thank all those who are making this event a reality for our neighbors in need.”

About the National Basketball Retired Players Association:

The National Basketball Retired Players Association (NBRPA) is comprised of former professional basketball players from the NBA, ABA, WNBA and Harlem Globetrotters. It is a 501(c)3 organization with a mission to develop, implement and advocate a wide array of programs to benefit its members, supporters and the community. The NBRPA was founded in 1992 by basketball legends Dave DeBusschere, Dave Bing, Archie Clark, Dave Cowens and Oscar Robertson. The NBRPA works in direct partnerships with the NBA and the National Basketball Players Association. Legends Care is the charitable initiative of the NBRPA that positively impacts youth and communities through basketball. Scott Rochelle is President and CEO, and the NBRPA Board of Directors includes Chairman of the Board Johnny Davis, Vice Chairman Dave Cowens, Treasurer Sam Perkins, Secretary Grant Hill, Thurl Bailey, Caron Butler, Jerome Williams, Shawn Marion, David Naves and Sheryl Swoopes. Learn more at legendsofbasketball.com.

To follow along with the NBRPA, find them on social media at @NBAalumni on Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Twitch or on Facebook at NBA Alumni.

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