AEYL & COMMUNITY LIFELINE CENTER – JOINT PRESS RELEASE

**McKINNEY, TEXAS – September 4, 2020**

**AEYL & CLC ANNOUNCE NEW PROGRAM TO FEED HUNGRY COLLIN COUNTY FAMILIES**

Families throughout North Texas continue to be financially impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, which also impacts their ability to purchase food. The USDA conservatively estimates that there are more than 100,000 Collin County residents who currently do not have enough to eat, including at least 40,000 Collin County children who go to bed hungry each night.

In response to this, Alliance of Elite Youth Leadership (AEYL) and Community Lifeline Center (CLC), two nonprofit organizations based in McKinney, have joined forces to launch a new program called “Feeding Friends and Families,” which was designed to distribute high-quality food to those in need, at no cost to the recipients.

Food boxes will be distributed on specified Saturdays from a centralized location in McKinney. Each family will receive two large boxes of food per distribution, one containing perishable produce and dairy products, and the other containing shelf-stable items including fruits, vegetable, and proteins.

“This new partnership between AEYL and CLC allows us to serve the community even more effectively than either organization could do on its own, by creating a new opportunity for large numbers of folks in need to get access to fresh, nutritious food so they can feed their families,” said Derrick Robinson, AEYL Founder and Executive Director.

“We are very grateful for the support we’ve received from North Texas Food Bank in Plano, and Services of Hope in Dallas, which are providing the food for this new program,” added Scott Elliott, CLC Executive Director.

The first two food distribution events are scheduled to occur on Saturday, Sept. 12, and Saturday, Sept. 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at 300 Throckmorton Street in McKinney. Anyone in McKinney or the surrounding area who is experiencing food insecurity due to COVID-19 or other crisis is eligible to receive food. Recipients will be asked to complete a short survey, which will be used by the program to identify additional areas of need.

The full Feeding Friends and Families distribution schedule for the remainder of 2020 will be released after the event on September 26. The program is seeking community volunteers who wish to participate in the upcoming Saturday food distribution events, and financial donations are needed to help cover program operating expenses.

The Alliance of Elite Youth Leadership is a community-based organization offering community and economic development through a variety of resourceful services for a direct holistic approach to supporting the success for families in the community.

Community Lifeline Center strengthens families and communities in north Collin County by guiding residents in crisis back to self-sufficiency and independence. CLC provides food, rent, and utility assistance to local residents experiencing short-term crisis.

To learn more about the Feeding Friends and Families program, or to volunteer on distribution Saturdays, go to [www.feedingfriendsandfamilies.org](http://www.feedingfriendsandfamilies.org)

To learn more about Alliance of Elite Youth Leadership or to donate, go to [www.aeyleadership.org](http://www.aeyleadership.org)

To learn more about Community Lifeline Center or to donate, go to [www.communitylifeline.org](http://www.communitylifeline.org)

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