

Press Release July 12, 2016 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Rebecca Ragland rragland@united-ministries.org 864-335-2614

## United Ministries Receives Gift from Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation

GREENVILLE, S.C. (July 12, 2016) – United Ministries has received \$3,000 from the Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation just in time to help feed local residents. United Ministries will use the funds to provide hunger alleviation through its client-choice food pantry.

"It takes a community coming together to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive. This gift from Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation will help to alleviate hunger for Greenville County families," says Tony McDade, Executive Director of United Ministries.

Food assistance is one part of the compassionate care that United Ministries provides to families and individuals experiencing poverty. United Ministries focuses on guiding people on the transformative journey to self-sufficiency. Those who seek food or financial assistance from United Ministries are introduced to the organization's free programs and services aimed at increasing financial stability, such as GED preparation, certified job training, help finding a job, and WorkKeys® certification.

United Ministries provides food to over 2,500 families in Greenville County each year. Many local congregations, schools, and businesses conduct food drives to donate through United Ministries' food pantry. United Ministries spends approximately \$40,000 a year to supplement these food drives. Grants and financial contributions, such as the one from Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation, help to meet the need for hunger alleviation in the community.

Established in 2001, the Food Lion Feeds Charitable Foundation provides financial support for programs and organizations dedicated to feeding the hungry in the communities it serves. Since its inception, the foundation has awarded more than \$9 million in grants.

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## **About Food Lion**

Food Lion, based in Salisbury, N.C., since 1957, now has 1,098 stores in 10 Southeastern and Mid-Atlantic states and employs more than 63,000 associates. By leveraging its longstanding heritage of low prices and convenient locations, Food Lion is working to own the easiest full shop grocery experience in the Southeast, anchored by a strong commitment to affordability, freshness and the communities it serves. Food Lion is a company of Delhaize America, the U.S. division of Brusselsbased Delhaize Group. For more information, visit www.foodlion.com.

## **About Food Lion Feeds**

For more than 50 years, Food Lion has been a strong philanthropic partner in the communities it serves. As a grocer, Food Lion's business is food. The company believes that no one should have to choose between dinner and paying rent or gasoline and buying groceries. Through Food Lion Feeds, Food Lion is working to create a better tomorrow by uniting with customers and partners to eliminate the choices families are forced to make when they are hungry. By the end of 2020, the company has pledged to provide 500 million meals to families in need in its local communities. For more information, visit www.foodlion.com/feeds.

## **About United Ministries**

Located in downtown Greenville's West End, United Ministries has been working for 45 years to give every member of our community the opportunity to participate in the prosperity of our community. Originally established by local congregations to meet the crisis needs of people living in poverty, our agency has evolved to focus on developing the potential each family possesses to become self-sufficient – and even to thrive. Our integrated service model discourages dependency on charity and promotes the dignity of work. For more information on United Ministries please visit <u>www.united-ministries.org</u> or call 864-335-2614.

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