

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Stephanie Wuorenma

Phone: 202-446-2138

Office: Terrebonne, OR (Pacific Time Zone) Email: mediarelations@agreenerworld.org

Website: agreenerworld.org

LOCAL FARM LAUNCHES FUNDRAISER TO HELP FEED FAMILIES IN NEED THROUGH FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MANNA DROP PROGRAM

--In Celebration of #GivingTuesdayNow, Hunter Farms delivers products to help families impacted by COVID-19--

DONALSONVILLE, GEORGIA (MAY 4, 2020)—In an effort to match excess supply on farms with unmet demand from food banks, nonprofit farm certifier <u>A Greener World</u> (AGW) has launched a nationwide, community-based fundraiser, 'Help Farmers Feed Hungry Families,' that features Hunter Farms of Jakin, Georgia to help feed families through Friendship United Methodist Church's Manna Drop program in Donalsonville.

With a surge in unemployment, school nutrition program closures and the massive strain on traditional support networks, demand for food assistance has skyrocketed. At the same time, many farms are increasingly challenged to afford production when there is no customer. Some farms whose products are normally processed further (e.g., milk) have even had to dispose of products due to supply chain disruptions and predatory practices by processors.

Recognizing the complementary needs of food banks and farms, A Greener World initiated this peer-to-peer fundraiser whereby its certified farms, ranches and producers can coordinate donations to support food delivery to area nonprofits serving community food needs. In time for #GivingTuesdayNow, the fundraiser recently expanded to include Hunter Farms. #GivingTuesdayNow is a new global day of giving that takes place on May 5, 2020--in addition to the regularly scheduled Dec 1, 2020 #GivingTuesday--as an emergency response to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19.

Hunter Farms is providing 35 pounds of ground beef to help feed those who come to Manna Drop's monthly food box pickup at Friendship United Methodist Church, a program serving 300 families each month year-round.

Chad Hunter of Hunter Farms says,

"With restaurant closures related to COVID-19, we lost some of our regular markets for our beef. I'm glad to be able to partner with Friendship United Methodist Church and provide beef for families in our community. It means a lot during this time."

Friendship United Methodist Church Senior Pastor, Rev. Nate Lehman says,

"The food ministry at Friendship United Methodist Church is an elaborate program run solely by members of the church. For the last 20 years, our congregation has worked to provide ministries like the monthly Manna Drop along with a backpack ministry and emergency food boxes. We are grateful to be able to work with farmers like Chad Hunter at Hunter Farms to help out members of our community."

AGW Executive Director Andrew Gunther says,

"There seems to be an insurmountable amount of challenges our world is facing due to the effects of COVID-19, but by connecting farmers with excess supply with their local food banks, we can help to get food to people who need it while also helping to keep farms in business. Farmers need much more support than they're currently getting and so we're turning to our networks and asking anyone that might have a few extra dollars right now to give what they can to help farms and families get through this. By showing these farms we care and that we support them, we can help them to weather this crisis and ensure the long-term health of our sustainable regional food systems."

To support this effort, visit the giving page for **Hunter Farms**.

###

ABOUT A GREENER WORLD

A Greener World (AGW) identifies, audits, certifies and promotes practical, sustainable farming systems by supporting farmers and ranchers and informing consumers. AGW's growing family of trusted certifications includes Certified Animal Welfare Approved by AGW, Salmon Welfare Certified by AGW, Certified Grassfed by AGW Each program is designed to have positive and measurable impacts on the environment, society and animals, and to encourage truly sustainable farming practices. AGW's standards and procedures are robust, transparent and achievable.

A nonprofit funded by donations, AGW offers a range of resources to help people make informed food choices, including an <u>Online Directory</u> of certified farms and products and <u>Food Labels Exposed</u>—a definitive guide to food label claims (available in print and online). For more information visit <u>agreenerworld.org</u>.