FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Deborah Chambers
VP, Development & Partnerships
Cell: 202-534-9965
dchambers@missiondc.org

PRESS RELEASE

Mission Welcomes USDA Family Food Boxes and White House Volunteers

Washington, DC—May 20, 2020—Tomorrow at 9:30 am, White House staff will be on hand at Central Union Mission’s Family Ministry Center (3194-B Bladensburg Rd., NE, Washington, DC 20018) to help distribute Family Food Boxes to our hungry neighbors. The Family Food Boxes are part of the federal Coronavirus Farm Assistance Program, in which existing national food supply networks are boosted to get farmers’ unsold produce directly to the Americans who need it the most.

According to Mission President & CEO Joe Mettimano, “This distribution could not happen at a better time. The Family Ministry Center serves about 4,000 people a month, but since the COVID-19 emergency began, our first-time food recipients have increased by 50%. Most of the families we serve are headed by folks employed in the hospitality industry, which has been especially hard-hit.”

“The fresh produce, protein and milk provided in the Family Food Boxes are healthy options that our families, single parents and senior citizens struggle to afford. We are grateful for the partnership with the administration and our relationship with Citygate Network, who are collaborating to support rescue missions like Central Union Mission. Rescue mission employees are the front line for serving people experiencing poverty and homelessness during this pandemic.”

The distribution will take place with safe social distancing outside the Family Ministry Center (3194-B Bladensburg Rd., NE, Washington, DC 20018) at 9:30 am on May 21, 2020.
Photos and interviews are available. Please contact Deborah Chambers at 202-534-9965 or dchambers@missiondc.org for more information.

About Central Union Mission:
Central Union Mission is a faith-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and the oldest private social service agency in Washington, DC. In addition to its emergency shelter, which provides almost 60,000 bed-nights each year, the Mission operates a holistic, Christ-centered transformation and workforce development program for men, provides benefits for veterans, helps people overcome addictions, operates a food and clothing distribution center which provides food for over 4000 people each month, runs a camp for underprivileged children, and offers a ministry to families and senior citizens. Charity Navigator has rated Central Union Mission as a three star charity, GuideStar awarded Central Union Mission a Gold Seal for our financial transparency and GreatNonProfits has given Central Union Mission a Top-Rated award.

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Central Union Mission | 65 Massachusetts Ave. NW, | Washington, DC 20001

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