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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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July 7, 2009

Ald. Willie C. Wade  
(414) 286-3764

## **Jewish Community Food Pantry to Open**

*Facility to Address Hunger in Milwaukee*

The Jewish Community Pantry will officially open its doors with a ribbon-cutting ceremony this week.

**A ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring Alderman Willie C. Wade will be held on Thursday, July 9 at 2:00 p.m. at the facility, located at 3033 W. Burleigh St. Mayor Tom Barrett and Mark Shapiro, executive director of the Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center, will also participate in the event.**

Alderman Wade, who will help cut the ribbon and welcome the pantry to the community, said: "We all need to appreciate the efforts put forth by organizations such as this one. Hunger does not only affect the homeless, but now, it affects children and the elderly, and it affects even our citizens with jobs, or those that have been laid off and do not have necessary resources to provide enough food for their families."

Because of the economic crisis, many city residents have lost jobs and savings, and many can't afford to put food on the table. No longer is hunger only a problem of those struggling with poverty. According to the USDA, more than 36 million Americans have limited resources preventing them from getting adequate amounts of food for their household. In such economic conditions, food pantries openings are critical in communities across the nation.

The pantry's hours of operation will be every Thursday from 11:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., and the phone number for Thursdays only is (414) 447-8901.

The Jewish Community Pantry's mission is to:

- To provide emergency food to individuals and families in crisis in the greater Milwaukee community
- To connect clients to community resources

**-More-**

### **New Food Pantry/ADD ONE**

- To increase awareness of the existence of hunger in the community
- To educate the community on how to assist in alleviating hunger

The Jewish Community Pantry Network is part of the Hunger Task Force Emergency Pantry Network, and it is cosponsored by the Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center, Women's Division for the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and the Milwaukee Jewish Council for Community Relations. The pantry operates under the leadership of Dorene Paley, director of community services for the Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center, and 33 volunteers.