



*The Gathering of Southeast Wisconsin, Inc.*  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Local Nonprofit Invites Hungry and Homeless to Parking Lot Cookout** *Pop's BBQ donates food and services to support The Gathering on moving day*

MILWAUKEE, WI (August 27, 2019) – The Gathering is a local community meal program that provides close to 90,000 free meals a year to the hungry and homeless population. The local nonprofit has been asked to relocate its meal program due to lack of space at its current meal site. On Friday, August 30 at 8:30 AM, The Gathering and Pop's BBQ will join forces to feed breakfast to 200 hungry and homeless individuals.

"I love to give and help those in need. The Lord has blessed me and I want to be a blessing to others..." says Michael "Pops" Hester, Owner of Pop's BBQ.

Hester, and his wife Debra, started Pop's BBQ in 2007 and have 10 employees today. The small business is a food trailer located on 76<sup>th</sup> St and Good Hope Rd and operates Thursdays through Sundays. Hester has volunteered with The Gathering in the past and was eager to be able to provide to his downtown community.

"The notion of a business like Pop's BBQ to donate their time, talent and treasure in order to provide The Gathering's guests with a meal on moving day is incredibly generous, not to mention essential for us to be able to continue our ministry..." says Lyn Hildenbrand, Executive Director of The Gathering.

With the hard work and dedication of staff and volunteers, the local non-profit will uproot its meal program and relocate to new location.

#### **About The Gathering of Southeast WI, Inc.**

The Gathering was founded in 1982 and over the years, has developed a Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner program that run throughout the week across four different meal sites. The Gathering provides other programming such as the Bag Lunch Program and Fresh Produce Preservation Project. Its Mission is to provide meals to the hungry and homeless population who would otherwise go hungry or without. The Gathering works with over 2,000 volunteers and serves nearly 90,000 meals in a fiscal year with only nine paid staff members. The learn more visit, [www.thegatheringwis.org](http://www.thegatheringwis.org)

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People in Community Feeding the Hungry

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