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Wolves' Chris Wright's support of 2011 March Campaign a slam dunk

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (Feb. 15, 2011) – Minnesota FoodShare's March Campaign raises more than half the food distributed annually through 300 food shelves across the state. If the annual food and fund drive did not exist, local food shelves throughout the state would truly be facing "Mission Impossible."

But for almost three decades, civic groups, businesses, congregations, schools and individuals have come together in this grassroots effort to fight hunger. This year, those groups and individuals will be working toward another ambitious March Campaign goal – to raise 12 million combined pounds and dollars.

Minnesota Timberwolves president Chris Wright will be assisting Minnesota FoodShare with the 2011 food and fund drive. "I am excited to be the honorary chairperson for Minnesota FoodShare's March Campaign," Wright said. "For 15 years, the Timberwolves have had the privilege of working with this phenomenal organization to help restock food shelves across Minnesota. I will personally call upon our staff and fans to once again work with Minnesota FoodShare to help in this statewide fight against hunger."

That fight is so important to so many men, women and children throughout Minnesota – including the working poor, toddlers, senior citizens and yes, the middle class. In 2010, there were more than three million food shelf visits statewide and it is estimated that the number of Minnesotans without enough food is now 14 percent.

The momentum to help meet this continuing need is already building. Groups are planning a variety of events, from stuffing a semi-truck with food to chili challenges, from packing a fish house with contributions to donating funds for casual days at work. All this and more to help the March Campaign raise the resources to stock food shelves statewide with more than 30 million pounds of food throughout the year.

For an informational video about Minnesota FoodShare and the March Campaign, visit mnfoodshare.gmcc.org.

Minnesota FoodShare is just one of a family of community service programs of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC). Since 1905, GMCC has battled poverty in Minnesota, bringing together businesses, civic groups and congregations to help struggling families remain self-reliant.