## WCTEL launches second annual "Give Big, Get Gig" to boost area food pantries

Oct. 24, 2023

Abbeville, SC -- WCTEL and WCFIBER announce the launch of the second annual "Give Big, Get Gig" campaign.

The food drive begins Nov. 1 and will last throughout the month. Customers and residents are encouraged to donate at least three non-perishable food items at any WCTEL and WCFIBER offices. In return, customers will receive a "speed bump" to a Gig for the month of December.

"We had an overwhelming response last year with nearly three tons of food donated. We hope to top that this year," says Jeff Wilson, WCTEL CEO. "Our communities take care of us, and we need to take care of each other."

The one gig speed boost comes during a time of heavy internet use for many residents.

"Many of our customers will have guests over the holidays, which can lead to more internet usage in their homes, says Shannon Sears, WCTEL director of Commercial Operations. "We see a lot of gaming, streaming movies, video calls, security cameras and more. When done together, it can strain your home network. But, with our Gig service, households can do all of these things seamlessly."

Wilson said current Gig customers who donate will receive a gift in lieu of the speed bump.

Benefitting food banks are:

- UCMAC (Abbeville)
- First Baptist Church (Iva)
- Helping Hands (McCormick)
- Food Bank of Greenwood County
- Living Hope Foundation Food Pantry (Newberry)

Collection bins will be placed in the lobbies of the following offices beginning Nov. 1 and lasting throughout the month. The drive will conclude Nov. 30, and customers will receive the speed bump on Dec. 1.

"Our customers stepped up in a major way last year, and we're so grateful for their generosity. We encourage everyone to support this initiative, whether you are a customer or not," Wilson said. "We have an opportunity to collectively to help out our fellow neighbors and ease their worries over the holiday season."

WCTEL office locations:

Abbeville: 233 Hwy 28 S, Abbeville, SC 29620 McCormick: 200 Virginia St, McCormick, SC 29835

Iva: 619 W Front St, Iva, SC 29655

## WCFIBER locations:

Greenwood: 1410 Montague Ave Ext, Greenwood, SC 29649

Newberry: 739 Kendall Rd (inside of Fulmer Heating & Cooling), Newberry, SC 29108

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