FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Michelle Frampton

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**Providing for the Most Vulnerable**

*Fresh to You Mobile Market Brings Hope to Elgin Residents*

Elgin, IL – Gifts for the holidays don’t always come wrapped in bows and ribbons. Instead, a grocery store environment was created on Friday, December 16 by Food For Greater Elgin at Central Park Towers for the many residents faced with the ongoing struggle of food insecurity. “It has always been our goal to reach every person in need of food in our community. For low income seniors and people with disabilities, it can be extremely difficult to secure adequate transportation to get to our facility,” explained FFGE Executive Director Michelle Frampton. “We not only aimed at providing shelf stable items, but also bringing plentiful fresh and frozen food options that people could select for themselves based on the foundations of choice and dignity Food For Greater Elgin is built upon.”

Through a celebrated partnership between the Housing Authority of Elgin, Senior Services Association and Food For Greater Elgin, Fresh to You Mobile Market took place for the second time last Friday and will continue to be brought to the Central Park Towers apartments every third Friday of the month. "At the Housing Authority of Elgin, we take our mission very seriously. We have provided a very high quality of housing, now the added component of the Greater Elgin food and nutrition program makes Central Park Towers a preferred and desired residence in the city of Elgin.” Central Park Tower apartments consist of 164 units of affordable and market rate housing. Renovations and new construction was completed in December, 2015.

Resident Marcelle Colman emotionally shared, “Central Park Towers is a great place to live and the Housing Authority of Elgin links us to services that help all of us to get through life much easier. The Food For Greater Elgin is the greatest blessing for all seniors here at Central Park Towers. Without this service being here, many of us would not be able to make it throughout the month with food.” Marcelle and more than 75 other residents filled their bags and carts with an abundance of produce, meats, meals, breads, household items and cans and boxes aimed at meeting senior nutrition needs.

QUOTE/INFORMATION

“We are beyond thrilled to work with Housing Authority and Senior Services to bring the spirit of the season to all of these wonderful people, not just today, but throughout the year.” said Frampton.

Food For Greater Elgin is a large, client choice food pantry serving an average of 1,200 households per month, equating to nearly 6,000 individuals – of whom half are children. The organization practices a holistic approach to food insecurity through a grocery store environment with plentiful, nutritious, fresh and shelf-stable items, and a community resource center where clients are linked to additional information and services.

For more information on fighting hunger visit [www.FoodForGreaterElgin.org](http://www.FoodForGreaterElgin.org)

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