FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mid-Continent Public Library’s Food for Fines is Back!

Library Trades Fees for Food Donations During Biannual Program

Greater Kansas City, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library’s biannual Food for Fines program is back! This spring, Food for Fines will be held from Monday, May 7 through Sunday, May 13, 2018. During the weeklong initiative, customers at all 31 MCPL branches will have the chance to donate nonperishable food items in place of money to pay off overdue fines or replacement card charges.

Following completion of the program, the food will be given to charitable organizations across the Kansas City metro.

“Food for Fines plays two vital roles in our community,” said Geri Haile, MCPL Blue Ridge Branch Manager and Food for Fines Committee member. “We’re giving customers another option to get rid of those pesky fines, and we’re stocking our food pantries when many of them need it most—during the summer months with more kids to feed.”

MCPL offers the Food for Fines program twice a year—leading into summer to encourage active participation in the annual Summer Learning Program, which this year kicks off on May 21, and in the fall to alleviate any barriers for children seeking homework help and required reading materials at the Library. To date, the Library has collected more than 84,000 items for local charities through its Food for Fines program.

Suggested donations include boxed meals, canned food, peanut butter, cereal, and pasta. Donations must not be expired, damaged, open, non-nutritious, or in a glass, plastic, or cardboard drink container. Each donated food item will count as $1 toward a customer’s fines and fees (up to $10).

Current Food for Fines recipients include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCPL Branch</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antioch Branch</td>
<td>Metro Lutheran Ministry Food Pantry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Ridge Branch</td>
<td>Community Assistance Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Springs North Branch</td>
<td>Community Services League, Blue Springs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Blue Springs South Branch | Community Services League, Blue Springs  
Boardwalk Branch | St. Vincent DePaul Society  
Buckner Branch | Community Services League, Buckner  
Camden Point Branch | Dearborn Community Food Network  
Claycomo Branch | Benedictine Sisters (Clay County)  
Colbern Road Branch | Coldwater of Lee’s Summit  
Dearborn Branch | Dearborn Community Food Network  
Edgerton Branch | Dearborn Community Food Network  
Excelsior Springs Branch | Good Samaritan Center  
Grain Valley Branch | Grain Valley Assistance Council  
Grandview Branch | Grandview Assistance Program  
Kearney Branch | Kearney Food Pantry  
Lee's Summit Branch | Lee’s Summit Social Services  
Liberty Branch | Grace Episcopal Church  
Lone Jack Branch | Helping Hands Food Pantry  
Midwest Genealogy Center | Community Services League  
North Independence Branch | Community Services League  
North Oak Branch | Barry Christian Church  
Oak Grove Branch | Faith in Christ Fellowship  
Parkville Branch | St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry at St. Therese Parish  
Platte City Branch | Dearborn Community Food Network  
Raytown Branch | Raytown Emergency Assistance Program  
Red Bridge Branch | Community Assistance Council–Red Bridge  
Riverside Branch | St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry at St. Therese Parish  
Smithville Branch | Smithville First Christian Church Food Pantry  
South Independence Branch | Community Services League  
Weston Branch | Dearborn Community Food Network  
Woodneath Library Center | Kansas City Church

For more information about Food for Fines, visit mymcpl.org/Food-for-Fines.

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Access Your World

Mid-Continent Public Library is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 31 branches and three Library-To-Go locations and serving nearly 800,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. The Library strives to enrich our citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. MCPL is a 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service winner. Connect with the Library on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.