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Get Shift Done for El Paso initiative launches

El Paso, Texas (April 7, 2020) — The **El Paso Community Foundation** today announced a new partnership with **Get Shift Done** to pay adversely affected hourly workers in the hospitality industry to work shifts for the **El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank**.

Get Shift Done for El Paso provides wages of \$10 an hour to workers left jobless by the coronavirus pandemic while providing meals for the disadvantaged. The program started Saturday, April 4 with the first of 40 daily shifts.

Get Shift Done (getshiftdone.org) was launched by Dallas business and community leaders Anurag Jain and Patrick Brandt with the support of their respective companies, community leaders, restaurant owners and nonprofit organizations. It was created to fill the gap between the reduction of volunteers and the increased need among food banks and other nonprofits with those from the food and service industry in need of supplemental income.

El Paso is the second city to roll out the initiative. The El Paso Community Foundation (epcf.org) learned about the innovative program and contacted Get Shift Done. With a short turnaround time, Get Shift Done for El Paso launched Shiftsmart technology to register workers for shifts at El Pasoans Fighting Hunger (elpasoansfightinghunger.org). The Shiftsmart platform and operations team manage the onboarding, matching, scheduling, dispatching, and routing of workers to perform shifts.

“Thanks to an incredible team in North Texas, we were able to adapt this innovative program,” said Eric Pearson, President and CEO of the El Paso Community Foundation. “This helps hospitality workers — who represent 31% of unemployment claims in the area — fill essential, caring jobs, and maintain the dignity of hard work.”

El Paso State Rep. Cesar Blanco said: “There is a lot of need in El Paso right now during this difficult and challenging time as we are dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Workers are out of work and families and seniors are struggling to put food on the table. That’s why I’m proud to support the partnership with the El Paso Community Foundation and Get Shift Done to employ displaced hospitality workers at El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank

who will help provide meals for needy families. This partnership is a win-win for our community.”

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger, El Paso’s only food bank, distributes food to more than 130 partner agencies and programs, including pantries, churches, and shelters in El Paso, Culberson, and Hudspeth counties.

With jobless claims spiking to record levels, the Get Shift Done concept was hatched at just the right time by helping people work to earn a basic income. Within days, other cities, municipalities and countries contacted the organization about assisting them in meeting the needs of the food insecure in their own areas by utilizing the Get Shift Done template.

Patrick Brandt, President of Shiftsmart, said: “El Paso has a strong infrastructure in place to allow us to quickly lend support to provide meals to vulnerable people.”

“The need for volunteers and the need for food and resources are spiking simultaneously during the crisis. When you apply a large displaced workforce in the food and beverage and hospitality industries, an innovative solution emerges that provides an answer to many needs,” said Anurag Jain, Chairman of Access Healthcare, Managing Partner of Perot Jain, and Chairman of the Board of North Texas Food Bank.

For more information or to support this fund, go to getshiftdone.org/el Paso or epcf.org/getshiftdone.

About the El Paso Community Foundation

The El Paso Community Foundation was established in 1977 as a permanent endowment for the long-term benefit of El Paso, far West Texas, Southern New Mexico and Northern Chihuahua, Mexico. The Community Foundation serves as a charitable resource to donors, nonprofit organizations and the community at large. The Community Foundation is the region’s most trusted philanthropic advisor. Its mission is to establish permanent charitable endowments, provide a vehicle for donors’ varied interests, promote local philanthropy, and provide leadership and resources to address local challenges and opportunities. For Good. For El Paso. Forever. epcf.org

About Shiftsmart

Shiftsmart is a worker-centric online marketplace that connects today’s dynamic workforce with companies facing increasingly complex staffing requirements. By empowering workers with more hours, better pay, and greater opportunity, Shiftsmart creates a mutually beneficial labor ecosystem. With Shiftsmart, **workers** build income, skills, and experience to become true micro-entrepreneurs. **Companies** can manage their own workforces and increase labor fulfillment with fast, convenient access to a large, always-connected global labor pool. **Communities** reduce poverty, increase productivity, and lower income volatility. Powered by cutting-edge technology, Shiftsmart executes shifts in 20 countries for leading edge employers including Google, Airbnb, HP, Chick-fil-A, and Deloitte.–Shift how you work. Shift how you hire. Shift how jobs get done. shiftsmart.com.