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Pitching in

Primerus firms display commitment
to the Global Day of Service

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By Tom Kirvan

Volunteers from Primerus and Buchanan Firm in Grand Rapids helped provide various food bags for the needy during the holiday season.



Mark F. Warzecha
Equity Partner
Wideman Malek, P.L.

In the world of Primerus, December 5 is annually observed as the Global Day of Service, a time when member law firms prioritize community involvement as a way of contributing to the public good.

The occasion dovetails with International Volunteer Day, which has been annually celebrated since 1985 on December 5 by the United Nations, “amplifying the importance of people-led solutions to our common challenges,” according to the UN.

Whatever the title participation falls under, the day serves as an opportunity for people and volunteer-driven organizations to work with social service agencies, nonprofits, community groups, academia, and the private sector in a joint effort to weave together values of compassion and solidarity.

Florida attorney Mark Warzecha, who has chaired the Primerus Community Service Board for the past five years, has been a longtime believer in the importance of active participation in local events, activities, and initiatives aimed at improving the wellbeing of the community.

“Giving back is a core part of being a good lawyer,” said Warzecha, a partner with Wideman Malek, P.L. in the coastal city of Melbourne, Fla. “It helps build trust and fosters goodwill and also has an additional benefit of building meaningful connections in the community.”

Warzecha noted that community service, which is the sixth pillar in Primerus’ core mission, should not be limited to a single day, but should be part of a year-round commitment to make a positive impact.

“Whether it is spreading joy through Timmy Vee’s Toys for Kids, supporting families of children with disabilities through our No Bad Days Foundation, mentoring the next generation

through Junior Achievement and other youth programs, or raising funds for Make-A-Wish through the Ippoliti Brothers’ Celebration Exotic Car Festival, we are dedicated to make a lasting impact,” Warzecha insisted.

“Being a great lawyer is not just about the courtroom,” he indicated. “It is about showing up for the communities we serve.”

In the most recent observance of Global Day of Service, a number of Primerus participants focused their efforts on aiding the hungry. This came in the wake of more than \$1 billion in federal funding cuts for initiatives that connected local farmers with schools and food banks. The cuts began in early 2025 and have led to reduced food supplies for communities struggling with hunger and have caused an increased strain on small farms.

To help counter the food shortfalls, the following Primerus firms pitched in to help the hungry in their respective communities:

- Schneider Bell, based in Cleveland, partnered with FrontLine Services for a November 1 food drive to benefit the community’s homeless veterans. The firm collected nearly 250 non-perishable food items.
- Demorest Law Firm, PLLC, based in Royal Oak (Mich.), channeled its efforts at Detroit’s Forgotten Harvest food distribution center, helping sort through food and pack totes of donations.
- Ogden Sullivan Stover & Saar, P.A., based in Tampa (Fla.), spent three days in December supporting Feeding Tampa Bay, sorting food items and other household essentials at its warehouse facility.



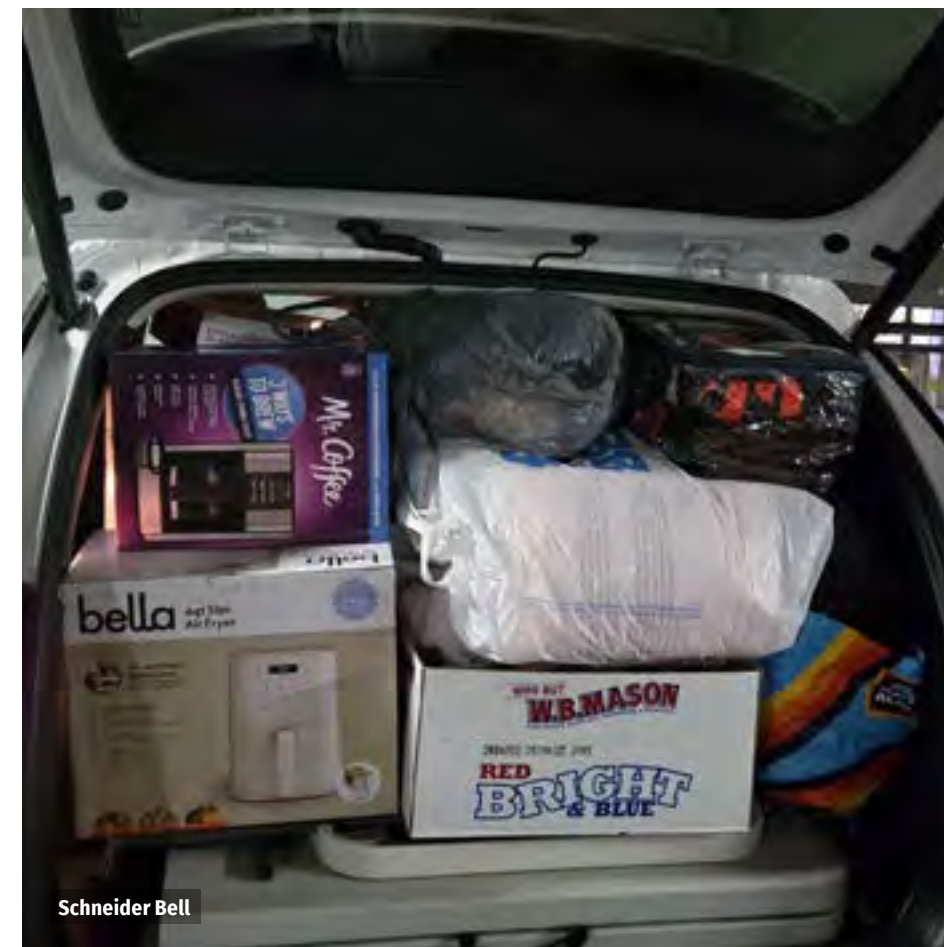
- Primerus and Buchanan Firm, both based in the Grand Rapids (Mich.) community, came to the aid of the Feeding America West Michigan chapter, packing 1,200 one-pound bags of cereal to help needy families.

- Greenberg Glusker, based in Los Angeles, hosted a Thanksgiving potluck at its office, and employees were encouraged to donate to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. The combined donation, according to the program's website, will provide up to 10,620 meals to hungry children, seniors, and families.

Other Primerus firms chose to direct their energies to a host of other worthy causes. A sampling:

- Coleman & Horowitz, LLP, based in Fresno (Calif.), aided their local Goodwill, sorting through the donations the store received and restocking its shelves with donated items.

- Collins & Lacy, P.C., based in Columbia (S.C.), assisted the Families Helping Families organization, devoting more than a week to collecting and buying



gifts, wrapping presents, and then delivering packages to the needy in the community.

- Mhishi Nkomo Legal Practice, based in Harare, Zimbabwe, participated in a tree planting initiative on December 10 at Mt. Pleasant High School in Harare.

- Wideman Malek, P.L. supported the Timmy Vee's Toys for Kids in Brevard County, an organization dedicated to brightening the holidays for needy families in the community.

- Greenberg Glusker also participated in the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) Greater Los Angeles toy drive, spreading holiday cheer for children in need.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Primerus' Global Day of Service – we applaud the efforts to give back in the communities you call home! 🇺🇸

