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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Midland, MI – October 31, 2024

Annual CANstruction Sculpture Event returns to Midland Mall for Fifth Year

Midland's fifth annual Canstruction® event will take place November 6-10, 2024, at the Midland Mall. Hosted by the Midland County Food Assistance Network (MCFAN), Midland Public Schools (MPS) and the Midland Mall, the event features teams from garage area schools who will build sculptures entirely out of cans of food to raise hunger awareness. This year's build, which is toy-themed, will occur on Wednesday, November 6. The sculptures will be on display until 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 10.

Students from Midland Homeschool, Bullock Creek High School, Dow High School, Windover High School, Midland High School, Northeast Middle School, Jefferson Middle School, St. John Middle School will use STEAM principles (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) to design creative sculptures. They will be built between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on November 6 at various locations throughout the Midland Mall. Following the build, technical awards based on structural integrity, overall design and best use of labels will be given during a ceremony at the Midland Mall Center Court at 3:00 p.m. The sculptures will be judged by a team of local community leaders, including educators, artists and engineers.

At 12:30 p.m. on November 10, the People's Choice award will be announced based on the votes received from the community. Votes are available for a donation of \$1 each and can be cast at the Midland Mall during mall hours, from November 6 through November 10. Everyone is welcome to visit the Midland Mall to look at the sculptures and vote for their favorites. All Canstruction Midland proceeds, including food from the build, will benefit MCFAN.

The more than 12,000 cans of food used to build the sculptures were purchased from local grocers Family Fare, Kroger, LaLonde's Market, Meijer and SpartanNash with the support of our generous sponsors including, Corteva, Jib Box, Gavin Financial, Midland Home Builders Association, Case Systems, Horizon Bank, Bierlein Company, Colin and Kerry Buell, Mike and Susie Staloch, Rich and Denise Helling, Robert and Jean Julier, Members First Credit Union, Andy Ault, Linked Technology, Orvosh Builders, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schmit, United Church of



Christ, Yeo and & Yeo and DCK Book Keeping. Volunteers and Hidden Harvest helped to organize and transport the food.

For further information, visit our <u>Facebook page</u> or the <u>website</u>, or contact Canstruction Midland organizers at <u>canstructionmidland@gmail.com</u>.

About Canstruction

Founded in 1992, Canstruction is an international hunger relief charity that raises millions of pounds of food each year for local food banks. Every year, Canstruction chapters have competitions citywide where teams vie for awards. Winners from each local event then go on to compete internationally in these categories.

About Midland County Food Assistance Network

The Midland County Food Assistance Network, formerly known as Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network, (MCFAN) is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization established in 1983 as a cooperative effort of area churches and other organizations to provide food and supplies to people in Midland County who need food assistance and are living near or below the federal poverty level income guidelines. For more information visit midlandcountyfan.org