

FOR RELEASE AT 9:45 AM CST:

April 2, 2019 Contact: Luke Inveiss (m):320-291-6119 (e): luke@teamifa.com

Thielen Foundation Announces \$100,000 MN COVID19 Donation and Radiothon presented by Choice Bank to be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> with KFAN & iHeart Radio-Minneapolis to raise additional funds for COVID Relief

Minneapolis, MN -- On March 15th when Minnesota schools announced they were temporarily closing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Thielen Foundation jumped into action with a \$25,000 donation to Second Harvest Heartland, to help feed students during this period that would otherwise go without meals.

"Our first concern went to all the students who are on free or reduced lunch programs, and we wanted to make sure they would have enough food to eat," said Adam Thielen, Minnesota wide receiver and founder of Thielen Foundation.

As the COVID-19 crisis has continued to escalate in recent weeks, the need for additional support for Minnesotans has only continued to grow. Because of this, the Thielen Foundation is committing an additional \$75,000 to three additional MN based organizations – for a total donation of \$100,000 to COVID19 MN relief efforts – to help youth and their families during this difficult time continue to reach their full potential.

To grow the impact even more, Thielen Foundation is partnering with KFAN and iHeart Radio-Minneapolis to host the Thielen Foundation MN COVID-19 Relief Radiothon presented by Choice Bank on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – a day full of impact stories, awareness and raising money to assist these local relief efforts during this pandemic.

"This community continues to amaze us with the support we give one another. Throughout this radiothon, our hope is that we can make a greater impact together during this difficult time and also provide some entertainment relief throughout the day. We are all in this together, and supporting one another is needed now more than ever" said Thielen.

Throughout the entire day on Thursday, April 9, KFAN programming will feature Adam Thielen on-air (from his home) and call-ins by other Minnesota athletes, coaches, team executives and community leaders. Starting at 6:00 a.m. during the Power Trip Morning Show through 6:30 p.m., donations will be accepted at <a href="www.thielenfoundation.org/COVID">www.thielenfoundation.org/COVID</a>. All donations accepted throughout the campaign will be equally divided between the four charities below and applied to their most urgent COVID-19 needs. All funds will be appropriated to families and children in the state of Minnesota. Benefiting organizations are:



<u>The Salvation Army North</u> – The Salvation Army stands ready to meet the needs of people impacted by COVID-19 and has ramped up its efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus with its most important programs – food, emergency assistance, and housing.

<u>Second Harvest Heartland</u> – Second Harvest Heartland is working to respond to a need for meals that has more than doubled since the COVID-19 outbreak began. By providing emergency food boxes, those experiencing hunger can access needed meals while reducing their risk of exposure. Second Harvest Heartland is coordinating an effort to distribute meals prepared by local restaurants through Loaves and Fishes – a free public dining program with 30 locations. Funds will ensure Second Harvest Heartland has the resources to respond to the growing needs of kids and families.

<u>M Health Fairview</u> – The University of Minnesota and M Health Fairview are at the forefront of the Coronavirus pandemic in research and care. The need for medical protection equipment and safety gear for patients and staff is at an all-time high, especially for those treating currently ill patients who are at a greater risk of contracting COVID-19. Funds from Thielen Foundation will go directly to purchase N95 masks, surgical shields, gowns and other essential equipment to protect patients and frontline caregivers

MN Disaster Recovery Fund for Coronavirus – The Minnesota Council on Foundations and Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation created this fund to support community needs as a direct result of the coronavirus pandemic. Funds will serve both short- and long-term needs that arise within communities, due to coronavirus and future disasters that occur within the state of Minnesota.

## **About Thielen Foundation**

Thielen Foundation was founded in 2018 and aims to create programs that will equip and empower kids to reach their full potential in life. For more information, please visit <a href="www.thielenfoundation.org">www.thielenfoundation.org</a>.

###