



SAINT LOUIS BREAD CO.® TO HONOR LOCAL CHARITABLE PARTNERS

Donations from the Saint Louis Market Generate \$84,500 for Operation Food Search

Saint Louis Bread Co.® hosted a special “Share the Warmth” reception on Monday, February 25 to recognize local charitable partners in the company’s Operation Dough-Nation program. The event took place at the Saint Louis Bread Co. bakery-cafe located at 6607 Chippewa in St. Louis Hills.

Over the last few years, Saint Louis Bread Co. has donated more than \$12 million worth of bread products to charitable organizations. The evening included an \$84,500 check presentation ceremony for Operation Food Search, Saint Louis Bread Co.’s local Operation Dough-Nation recipient. Operation Food Search was established in 1981 and has since become the largest distributor of free food in the bi-state region, helping to feed individuals in need. Since 1990, Operation Food Search has received more than \$8 million in bakery products and monetary donations from Saint Louis Bread Co.

“We would like to thank Saint Louis Bread Co. and their loyal customers for their ongoing support of Operation Food Search,” said Sunny Schaefer. “Through the generosity of Operation Dough-Nation, Operation Food Search will be able to provide food for many individuals in need.”

At Saint Louis Bread Co., the universal spirit of bread is sharing®. Since its founding, Saint Louis Bread Co. has been active in the community. Operation Dough-Nation was developed in 1992 to formalize the company’s commitment to community involvement. Since then, the program has grown to include four major activities: Community Breadbox™ cash collection, Day-End Dough-Nation, Panera Card®/SCRIP fundraising and participation in local community events.

“Operation Dough-Nation speaks to the importance of community and sharing that exists within Saint Louis Bread Co.,” said Rich Crannick, Panera Bread, Director of Operations. “We are proud to recognize our local charitable partners for their continued dedication to the St. Louis community – and would like to extend a special thank you to our customers for their continued support of the Operation Dough-Nation program.”

Through the Day-End Dough Nation program, Saint Louis Bread Co. bakery- cafes donate unsold bakery and bread products at the end of each business day to local food pantries and other non-profit, tax-exempt organizations. This program serves people in need including senior citizens, children’s organizations and various community outreach organizations. Since the program’s inception, local volunteers in the St. Louis area have donated their personal time to provide transportation of baked goods and bread between Saint Louis Bread Co. bakery-cafes and various food pantries and shelters within local communities.



Mike Kupstas (left), Erin Shassere (center left), and Katie Cosgrove (right) present Executive Director Sunny Schaefer (center right) with a Operation Dough Nation check for \$84,526.