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FROM DREAM TO MAINSTREAM

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbia Grain Celebrates the Season with the Gift of Bountiful Nutrition, Donating its Balanced Bushel Line of Beans and Pulses to Feed the Children and Food Banks Throughout the Northern U.S.

PORTLAND, OR (DECEMBER 2022)- [Columbia Grain International \(CGI\)](#) understands the need for balanced nutrition and the reality that many underserved communities and people don't have access to it. This holiday season, the CGI team is sharing the benefits of their recent expansion into the CPG category by donating pallets of their new healthy bean and pulses line, [Balanced Bushel](#), to nourish those in need. They are donating thousands of bags of the high-quality, plant-based protein to nonprofit Feed the Children and food pantries across their corporate footprint to ensure that everyone gets a healthy meal during the holidays.

CGI's in-kind contribution to Feed the Children includes 10,000 bags of assorted Balanced Bushel varieties that will be distributed to hungry families in the United States and around the world. CGI's corporate footprint extends throughout Washington, Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota, and many of its facilities are busy distributing Balanced Bushel bags to their local food banks.

"The number of people visiting food banks has increased to historic levels," said President & CEO of Columbia Grain, Jeff Van Pevnage. "We're honored to be in the position to donate healthy, plant-based protein to nourish our children, families and communities at a time of surging demand."

CGI's donation to Feed the Children will feed thousands of families this holiday season.

"At Feed the Children we envision a world in which no child goes to bed hungry," said Feed the Children's Manager of GIK Partnership, Terry Jones. "CGI's donations allow us to further this goal, while bringing shelf-stable staples to those in need this holiday season."

CGI's facilities in Lind, WA, Grangeville, ID, Crystal and Valley City, ND, and Conrad, Chester, Great Falls, Chinook, and Harlem, MT, are also donating Balanced Bushel bean varieties, and other donations, to

local food pantries and charities this December.

According to Camas Prairie Food Bank Director of Operations, Ken Lefsaker, CGI's donation adds to one of the most common items the food pantry gives to the approximately 300 families it helps every month. "Dry beans form a big part of our distribution regarding protein," said Lefsaker, "We give away a lot of beans as well as cooking directions and ideas for meals. Beans are a great way to stretch a dish and feed more."

The Ritzville Food Pantry in Ritzville, WA, recently lost some of its sources of food deliveries, but donations from CGI's location in Lind, WA, has filled in for those losses at a time when more people need food, according to the food bank's director Carol Ewing.

"We appreciate new sources of food in this economy where food prices are increasing and donations are low," she said. "We have seen an increase in the number of families seeking food this fall."

Through donations to its local community and partnering with Feed the Children, CGI furthers its mission to nourish the world, safely.

For media inquiries, please contact Josh Grega at (206) 291-4709 or josh@christieand.co.

About Columbia Grain International

Since 1978, [Columbia Grain International™](#) (CGI) has been *Cultivating Growth™* as a global leader in the origination, processing, logistics, and distribution of high-quality bulk grains, pulses, edible beans, oilseeds and organics for U.S. domestic and worldwide export markets. Headquartered in Portland, OR, CGI's reliable supply chain spans the western region of the US, ensuring abundant ingredients for all of its partners, thanks to their trusted relationships with their farmers throughout the fertile croplands of Washington, Idaho, Montana and North Dakota, well known for its high-quality wheat, feed grains, canola and pulses. CGI is an owner of Montana Specialty Mills, who operates an organic and non-GMO oilseed crushing facility in Great Falls, Montana, a mustard seed facility in Conrad, Montana, and most recently Montana Craft Malt —providing specialty malt barley from Montana farmers to the craft brewing world. Today, they are vertically integrated, operating assets including grain elevators, processing plants and agronomy centers to support their farmers, which stretch the northern tier of the United States. With multiple touchpoints across the food supply chain, CGI provides trusted solutions and cultivates high-quality ingredients from their local farmers for a farm to table philosophy that nourishes the world, safely.

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