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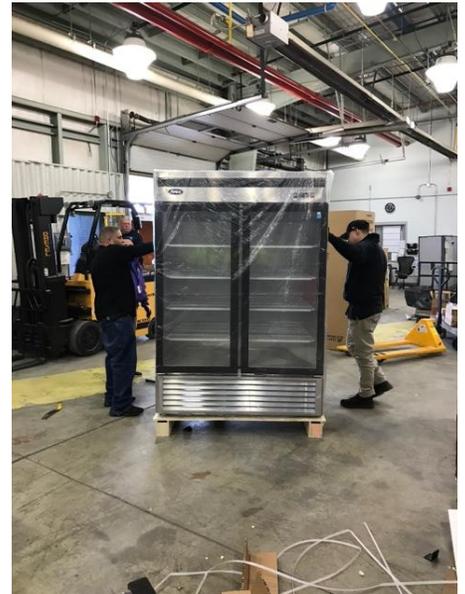
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Denver International Airport Receives Grant to Expand Food Donation Program**

**DENVER – March 1, 2017** – Denver International Airport (DEN) is expanding its food donation program after being awarded a \$20,313 grant by the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment.

The grant, which was awarded to DEN through the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) grant program, is being used to purchase eight new coolers to store food donated by participating airport concessions.

The airport in late 2015 launched a pilot program in which participating airport concessions and flight kitchens could donate leftover prepared entrees, side dishes, prepackaged salads and sandwiches, sealed beverages, condiment packets, canned goods and other items that are then picked up by Metro Caring – a leading Colorado hunger relief program.



Previously, the airport was relying on two coolers on loan from United Airlines to store these items. But with more than 58,200 pounds of food donated in 2016, the existing coolers were often overflowing and presented a logistical challenge for some companies. The new coolers will be installed on all three concourses and near the Jeppesen Terminal, allowing easier access for participating concessionaires. The new equipment also expands the program's storage capacity from 92 cubic feet to 460 cubic feet.

"Denver International Airport is committed to all aspects of sustainability, including social responsibility through community partnerships," airport CEO Kim Day said. "It is wonderful to see that our food donation program has become so successful that our coolers have been overflowing with donations from our generous business partners. By expanding this impactful program, we will be able to support even more Colorado families in need while reducing our environmental footprint. This is indeed a true win-win program!"

Current participating concessions and flight kitchens include: Ayala's, Provenzano, Delaware North Companies, LSG Sky Chefs, Paradies, Mission Yogurt, Tastes 5280, United Airlines Chelsea Food Services, Avila Retail, Simplicity USA and the Marshall Retail Group.

### **About Metro Caring**

Situated in the heart of Denver, Metro Caring is Colorado's leading hunger-relief not-for-profit organization. Annually, Metro Caring distributes over 2 million pounds of nutritious food (70-percent fresh) to hungry

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families across the seven-county metro area. Metro Caring's diverse approach to fighting hunger includes a free, fresh-foods market, nutrition and gardening education, and tools for self-sufficiency such as financial literacy education, ID procurement, and food production/grocery job-training. Over 200 weekly volunteers contribute to daily operations. For more information visit [www.metrocaring.org](http://www.metrocaring.org) and follow them on social media.

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*Denver International Airport is the 19th-busiest airport in the world and the sixth-busiest airport in the United States. With more than 58.2 million passengers traveling through the airport each year, DEN is one of the busiest airline hubs in the world's largest aviation market. DEN is the primary economic engine for the state of Colorado, generating more than \$26 billion for the region annually. For more information visit [www.FlyDenver.com](http://www.FlyDenver.com), check us out on [YouTube](#), [Pinterest](#), and [Instagram](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).*

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