

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
**Nov. 8, 2019**



## **Rosa Wims hosts 34<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving meal**

*Wims collaborates with Foodlink for annual event to feed Corn Hill neighbors*

ROCHESTER – A warm, holiday meal is waiting for Rosa Wims’ neighbors on Monday – just like it has been for the past 30+ years.

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual “Rosa’s Thanksgiving Dinner” is scheduled for Nov. 11 – Veterans Day – at the Montgomery Neighborhood Center on Cady Street. The event begins at noon and lasts until the food runs out. Foodlink helps prepare a majority of the food for the event, and the turkeys are generously donated by Palmer’s Food Service.

The event, which is open to the public, began decades ago on Jefferson Avenue with a small gathering of neighbors. It evolved into a yearly tradition that feeds hundreds. Volunteers from Foodlink and the health care community help serve the food. Pies are also donated by Special Touch Bakery, and supplies for the event are donated by Regional Distributors, Inc.

Wims, at 96 years of age, has dedicated her life to public service. She is recognized as the first black nurse’s aide at Rochester General Hospital and later became a licensed practical nurse. She founded the Faith Community Health Awareness Center on Genesee Street, which later was renamed in her honor, the Rosa Wims Family Wellness Center.

Wims has spent most of her life in the Third Ward and Corn Hill neighborhoods since moving to Rochester as a teenager. She has earned several awards and honors for her work, including the “W” Award, Susan B. Anthony Award, and the W. Burton Richardson Lifetime Achievement Award.

**WHO:** Foodlink, Rosa Wims & all her friends and neighbors!

**WHAT:** 34<sup>th</sup> annual Rosa’s Thanksgiving Dinner

**WHEN:** Monday, November 11, 2019; Noon until the food runs out

**WHERE:** Montgomery Neighborhood Center; 10 Cady Street, Rochester, NY

**MEDIA AVAILABILITY:** Reporters who wish to speak with Rosa should arrive between 12-1 p.m.

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### **About Foodlink**

Foodlink is the Feeding America food bank serving Allegany, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates counties. For more than 40 years, we have leveraged the power of food to end hunger and build healthier communities. Through good stewardship, innovation and collaboration, Foodlink mobilizes a diverse network of community partners to eradicate both the symptoms and root causes of hunger.

Foodlink's community health programs provide new access points to nutritious and affordable food in underserved communities. We empower individuals and families to make healthy choices through nutrition education initiatives. Our food banking operations distribute millions of pounds of food to a network of nonprofit members. The Foodlink Community Kitchen nourishes thousands of children daily with healthy meals, slices locally grown apples, and prepares people for culinary careers through a one-of-a-kind career empowerment program. Learn more about how we are transforming lives and creating healthy futures for every community we serve at [www.FoodlinkNY.org](http://www.FoodlinkNY.org), or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram at @foodlinkny.

### **For more information, contact:**

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