

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**AIA Florida Northwest's PensaCan 2023 now accepting build team registrations and sponsors**

*The annual event benefits the hungry served by Manna Food Bank*

**Pensacola, FL** (July 24, 2023) – Build team registrations and sponsors are being accepted now for PensaCan 2023 – an event led by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Florida Northwest to fight hunger in our community. This year, PensaCan will take place September 21 through September 29. Teams are strongly encouraged to register now, though teams will be accepted through September 1.

PensaCan is a competition where local businesses, architectural firms, organizations, and amateur groups create impressive structures made entirely out of full cans of food that are then donated to Manna to feed the hungry in Northwest Florida. Businesses, organizations, civic clubs, schools, or any other groups are welcome to register their teams for PensaCan 2023! Build teams are encouraged to design food structures for display at Cordova Mall, however permissible off-site locations, such as offices, are also acceptable. Digital designs are welcome too.

Sponsorship tiers start at just \$200 (the equivalent of providing 120 healthy meals for neighbors in need) and go up to \$1,000 (the equivalent of providing 600 healthy meals for neighbors in need). PensaCan sponsors can sponsor a single build team or the event as a whole. All sponsorship levels include (at minimum) recognition on event signage (displayed in Cordova Mall September 22-29) and Manna's event webpage.

Following a week-long display of the structures (and posters with images of digital designs and off-site builds) at Cordova Mall, all food is then donated to Manna for distribution to our hungry neighbors in need in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.

A panel of judges will vote on the structures on Friday, September 22, in categories such as Best Nutrition Award, Best Graphics Award, Structural Ingenuity Award, and more. And, People's Choice Award votes will be accepted online at [www.mannahelps.org](http://www.mannahelps.org) September 22 – September 29.

To sign up, for more information, or to sponsor, please visit [www.mannahelps.org/events/pensacan](http://www.mannahelps.org/events/pensacan).

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**About Manna**

Manna's mission is to offer emergency food assistance, service the food-related needs of vulnerable populations, and engage the entire community in the fight against hunger. A local grassroots organization with no national affiliation or government funding, Manna provided food to 69,095 people last year. Manna operates an emergency food assistance pantry and 17 specialty programs with 22 community partners in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties.