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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, January 11, 2024

Local Food Pantries Benefit from Dollar General Settlement

Lancaster, Ohio – Two local food pantries will share \$9,587, a portion of Ohio's settlement with Dollar General. Dollar General agreed to pay Ohio \$1 million because the retailer was not charging the correct or displayed price when customers paid at the register. Attorney General David Yost dedicated \$750,000 of the settlement to support food banks throughout the state.

Dr. Carri Brown, Fairfield County Auditor, stated, "Attorney General Yost coordinated well with local weights and measures inspectors to identify the statewide problem. He included County Auditors in the effort to provide the settlement dollars to those who need the funds the most; that resulted in two local food pantries in Fairfield County splitting \$9,597. This will go a long way to help residents who need food for their families."

The split is to be between the Community Action Food Pantry and the Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry.

"Most people don't shop at Dollar General because they have a lot of extra money to spend," Attorney General Yost stated at a conference with County Auditors in November 2023. "So, when a bottle of shampoo that should cost \$1 costs \$2 at the checkout, that's a real thing. And you all brought it to light." As a result of the case, Dollar General agreed to keep display prices updated and to adjust prices at the register anytime a customer identifies a pricing discrepancy.

Dollar General will also conduct random price checks and post signs about the settlement in its stores in Ohio, for which there are about 1,000. In Fairfield County, there are 13 Dollar General stores.

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