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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 8th Annual HARC Hike *for Hunger & Hope* a 'virtual' success!

[Hagerstown, Md.] The Hagerstown Area Religious Council (HARC) held its 8th Annual **HARC Hike *for Hunger & Hope*** virtually this year.

Originally planned as a traditional, in-person hike, the Hike Planning Committee decided in April to make this year's hike virtual. Hikers could participate anytime between Saturday, September 12 and Saturday, September 19, anywhere safe social distancing could be maintained.

Participating this year were 38 hikers and eight corporate sponsors. In addition to their registration fee, hikers could opt to garner pledges from family and friends. Sixteen hikers did so and raised over \$11,000.

The total raised from this year's Hike was \$15,285.

"Our target fundraising goal this year was \$15,000," according to Ed Poling, hike director. "With having to make some major adjustments due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we weren't sure how things would go. So we're thrilled that we actually exceeded our goal, thanks to the generosity of the hikers, our sponsors, and the community."

**HARC Hike *for Hunger & Hope*** Planning Committee members were Ed Poling, William Pike, Ed Maloy, Beth Johnston, Carla Charles, Wendi Perry, and Kelly Conrad.

The **Hike *for Hunger & Hope*** is HARC's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds from the 2020 Hike will benefit HARC programs, including Micah's Backpack, a program that provides nutritious food to food-insecure children in Washington County, Md.

For more information on the Hagerstown Area Religious Council, please visit [www.harccoalition.org](http://www.harccoalition.org).

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