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THE ST. LOUIS AREA FOODBANK ASKS THE COMMUNITY TO TAKE ACTION TO END HUNGER IN SEPTEMBER

Feeding America® Network Food Banks across the Country Unite for Hunger Action Month®

ST. LOUIS – August 30, 2019 – In the bi-state region, more than 427,000 of our neighbors struggle with hunger and may not know where they will find their next meal. Hunger affects many people - like Nicole, a single mother of an 8-year-old with a peanut allergy putting herself through college to get her teaching degree. And it affects Yvonne, a senior citizen on a fixed income that relies on the box of nutritious food she receives through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) to help feed herself and her grandkids when they visit her.

That is why this September the St. Louis Area Foodbank joins Feeding America food banks across the country to take part in Hunger Action Month and inspire people to take action and raise awareness of the fact that 40 million Americans, including 12.5 million children and 5.5 million seniors are food insecure.

This year's campaign seeks 40,000 actions – a volunteer shift, a social media post, or a donation – from the public that will help end hunger one helping at a time.

"Hunger can affect anyone. It could be a co-worker, your child's teacher, or the person making your coffee in the morning," said St. Louis Area Foodbank President and CEO, Meredith Knopp. "This September, we want to remind this community that we can all do something to affect hunger and have a positive impact on the lives of individuals in need of food assistance. Every action counts and we're calling on people throughout the bi-state region to do their part and find a way help ensure that no one goes to bed hungry."

The St. Louis Area Foodbank has many activities planned to engage the community in hunger relief and awareness building, including:

STL Chefs Against Hunger – Throughout September, order the featured dish from nearly 40 restaurant locations in the region. A portion of sales from each dish sold is donated to the Foodbank.

Subway Hunger Action Month Campaign – Throughout September, for every two meals (meal includes sub, salad or wrap with any drink and chips or 2 cookies) purchased, local participating Subway® restaurants will donate one meal to the Foodbank.

Hunger Action Day Volunteer Event + Happy Hour – On Thursday, September 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Guests will enjoy beverages and box up food throughout the evening. Tickets are \$10 online or \$15 at the door.

Taste of St. Louis – The St. Louis Area Foodbank is one of four community partners included in the “Healthy@Home” area of the festival in downtown St. Louis, September 13-15 at Soldier’s Memorial Park and will receive a portion of proceeds from the festival.

Series Six Apparel T-shirt – The local clothing company has designed an “Eat Local, Feed Local” t-shirt and 100% of the proceeds from sales of that shirt go to the Foodbank.

Go Orange – Orange is the national color of hunger awareness. Throughout September, the Foodbank encourages everyone to take a selfie wearing something orange, holding something orange or standing next to something orange and post their photos on social media using the hashtag #HungryForChange to raise awareness.

“Hunger Action Month is a time for us to take action and help our neighbors and friends struggling to put food on the table,” said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. “Every state and every county in this country have people facing hunger. Our network of food banks and partner food pantries and meal programs are positioned to serve all of them. You can help at the local level by volunteering, engaging, advocating and donating, and together we can end hunger one helping at a time.”

September marks the twelfth year the Feeding America network has organized this annual call to action. To learn more about the St. Louis Area Foodbank and other ways you can get involved for Hunger Action Month, please visit <http://STLFoodbank.org/HAM> or HungerActionMonth.org. You can also join the conversation by posting photos or stories to social media with #HungerActionMonth, @STLFoodbank and @FeedingAmerica.

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About the St. Louis Area Foodbank

The St. Louis Area Foodbank began its service to the community in 1975. Since that time, the organization has grown to become the bi-state region’s largest nonprofit 501c3 food distribution center dedicated to feeding individuals in need. Through a robust network of community partners and programs throughout 26 counties in Missouri and Illinois, the Foodbank helps provide 37 million meals annually. For more information on the organization and the issue of hunger, please visit www.STLFoodbank.org.

About Feeding America

Feeding America® is the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States. Through a network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs, we provide meals to more than 46 million people each year. Feeding America also supports programs that prevent food waste and improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit www.feedingamerica.org, find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.