



Immediate Release

Foodbank of Santa Barbara County

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Foodbank of Santa Barbara County Receives Generous Donation of \$10,000 From Wells Fargo to Meet the Ever Increasing Demand for Food

Santa Barbara, CA– The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County received a badly needed donation of \$10,000 from Wells Fargo in response to increasing demand for food throughout the county.

“On behalf of all the hungry people or member agencies serve I want to extend our gratitude to Wells Fargo,” said Executive Director Erik Talkin. “With the enormous increase in the cost of living these funds are greatly needed to keep the food moving through our warehouse doors. We are seeing an increase anywhere from 30 to 50 percent in need from our member agencies,” said Talkin. “With this gift Wells Fargo can help thousands of people. For every dollar the Foodbank receives more than 96.5 percent goes straight back out into the community.”

Despite a challenging economy in 2007, Wells Fargo’s charitable donations to non-profit organizations in Santa Barbara County went up 42 percent from the previous year. Last year, Wells Fargo awarded 76 grants and \$209,145 to non-profit organizations in Santa Barbara County.

"With demand soaring and donations declining, our local food banks are in desperate need of support," said Patrick Nygren, Wells Fargo Community Bank district manager for Santa Barbara County. "Wells Fargo is encouraging corporate leaders in the region to donate time and money to the regional food banks to see them through this on-going crisis."

Wells Fargo & Company is a diversified financial services company with \$609 billion in assets, providing banking, insurance, investments, mortgage and consumer finance through almost 6,000 stores and the internet (wellsfargo.com) across North America and elsewhere internationally. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. is the only bank in the U.S., and one of only two banks worldwide, to have the highest possible credit rating from both Moody’s Investors Service, “AAA,” and Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services, “AAA.”

The Foodbank, celebrating 25 years of moving people from hunger to harvest, provides a vital link between the multi-faceted food industry and people in need of food. With warehouses in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria the Foodbank serves over 220 social service organizations and churches. More than 43% of those served by the Foodbank are youths under the age of 18. In 2007, the Foodbank distributed more than 7.3 million pounds of food to more than 100,000 people in need throughout Santa Barbara County.

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