



# For Immediate Release

## Foodbank of Santa Barbara County

Kerry Main Aller  
Development and Public Relations Manager  
937-3422 x106  
450-3293 cell  
kaller@foodbanksbc.org

### ***Santa Maria Times and Lompoc Record Helps Kick Off the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual KCOY Spring Food Drive With Grocery Bags for Non-Perishable Food Donations!***

**Santa Maria, CA.** - The 7th Annual KCOY Spring Food Drive, benefiting the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County will be running April 27 – May 20. To help kick it off this year the Santa Maria Times and Lompoc Record, Lee Central Coast Newspapers, will be distributing 27,000 grocery bags on May 1. The bags are being sponsored by the newspaper and through a generous donation from Albertson’s Save-On Pharmacy.

This incredible event spearheaded by KCOY is the largest food drive effort on the central coast. This year’s it is more important than ever to support the food drive and help fill the bright yellow barrels with the grocery bags full of non-perishable items.

“The bags are wonderful because they arrive straight to your door in the newspaper and have the list of the items we need the most,” said Foodbank Executive Director Erik Talkin.

Bags may be dropped off at the Foodbank located at 490 W. Foster Road, Santa Maria, and at all Albertson’s Save-On Pharmacy stores and all participating grocery stores throughout the county. All foods donated will make a tremendous difference in the lives of the hungry throughout Santa Barbara County.

Talkin wants the community to know that the availability of donated non-perishable foods from major manufacturers has decreased over the year. “For every \$1 dollar donated the Foodbank can distribute \$7 dollars of nutritious food. All food donated for the Food Drive is distributed without charge to those in need,” said Talkin. “All donations are greatly appreciated.”

**What:** Grocery Bag Insert in Santa Maria Times and the Lompoc Record  
**Friday, May 1st**

**Where:** Foodbank of Santa Barbara County  
**North County Warehouse**  
490 W. Foster Rd.  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Phone: (805) 937-3422 ext 109

Foodbank of Santa Barbara County  
**South County Warehouse**  
4554 Hollister Ave.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110  
Phone: (805) 967-5741 ext 112

The Foodbank 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 are youths under the age of 18. In 2008, the Foodbank distributed more than 8 million pounds of food of which included nearly 2 million pounds of fresh produce to more than 125,000 people in need. For more on the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, please visit [www.foodbanksbc.org](http://www.foodbanksbc.org)

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