



# For Immediate Release

## **Foodbank of Santa Barbara County**

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### ***Foodbank and Community Leaders Get to Work for the 6th Annual National Hunger Awareness Day!***

**Santa Maria, CA-** On Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, along with food banks across the nation, will recognize the more than 38 million Americans suffering from hunger by recognizing National Hunger Awareness Day (NHAD). NHAD is a day of unity for everyone in the United States to come together and show their support for one of the most solvable issues in this country – hunger relief.

On June 5<sup>th</sup> the Foodbank is asking local community and business leaders to “roll up their sleeves” and help us with the work we do to distribute millions of pounds of food through our network of member agencies. These volunteers will assist at the Foodbank from 8 am to noon and will be educated about the work of the Foodbank and the member agencies. “We need help 365 days a year to feed the more than 100,000 hungry people in our county and we are extremely grateful to the community for their open-hearted spirit of giving,” said Jim Mangis, Foodbank, executive director.

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 200 social service organizations and churches. In an effort to expand the community’s access to fresh fruits and vegetables the Foodbank is partnering with agencies throughout the county to deliver and distribute, free of charge, thousands of pounds of fresh produce at various sites weekly through our Mobile Farmer’s Markets.

In 2006, the Foodbank distributed over 1.5 million pounds of fresh produce and has set a goal of distributing 2 million pounds of fresh produce in 2007. The Foodbank is committed to making fresh fruits and vegetables available to those in need as the best means of combating poverty-related health issues like diabetes and chronic overweight.

The heart of National Hunger Awareness Day is people coming together as individuals, groups, organizations or corporations to help hungry Americans.

**Who: Foodbank of Santa Barbara County**

**What: National Hunger Awareness Day**

**When: Tuesday, June 5  
8:00a.m. – Noon**

**Where: 4554 Hollister Avenue  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110**

**And**

**490 West Foster Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93455**

**Why: Ending hunger in our community is possible.**

**Visuals: Community leaders volunteering at the Foodbank doing a number of tasks including sorting food, inspecting produce and assisting member agencies in receiving and accessing food.**

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