

HUNGER ACTION MONTH™



LOS ANGELES REGIONAL



Fighting Hunger. Giving Hope.

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FOOD BANK LAUNCHES HUNGER ACTION MONTH

Los Angeles – (September 6, 2016) – This month, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, together with the Feeding America nationwide network of food banks, is mobilizing communities across all 50 states in an effort to fight hunger. Hunger Action Month is designed to inspire people to take action and raise awareness of the fact that 48 million Americans, including 15 million children, are food insecure, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

In Los Angeles County, more than 1.4 million people struggle with hunger and may not know where they'll find their next meal. That number includes one in four children who may not have enough to eat.

September marks the ninth year the Feeding America network of food banks has organized this annual call to action. The Hunger Action Month 2016 campaign asks people to consider how it must feel to live with an empty stomach, which puts a healthy life and a promising future at risk.

“Despite the improved economy, Los Angeles County has more people experiencing food insecurity than any other county in the United States,” said Michael Flood, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. “Hunger Action Month provides a great opportunity for everyone to take action and make a difference in the lives of those in need.”

The Los Angeles Regional Food Bank has teamed with local chefs to spread awareness about Hunger Action Month. In September, video and photos on the Food Bank's website and social

media pages will feature chefs including Susan Feniger (Border Grill, Mud Hen Tavern); Yousef Ghalaini (FIG); Robert Irvine (Food Network's "Restaurant Impossible"); Mary Sue Milliken (Border Grill) and others sharing messages supporting Hunger Action Month and inviting Angelenos to help support the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank.

"With the combined effort of Feeding America, the nationwide network of food banks and hunger advocates across the country, the goal of this campaign is to raise awareness about hunger and inspire Americans to get involved," said Diana Aviv, CEO of Feeding America. "The Feeding America network is leading the fight to end hunger in the U.S. We all have a role to play in getting food to our neighbors in need. Advocate. Educate. Volunteer. Donate."

To learn more about the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank and other ways you can get involved for Hunger Action Month in Los Angeles County, please visit www.lafoodbank.org or HungerActionMonth.org.

About Los Angeles Regional Food Bank

For 43 years, the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank has worked to mobilize resources in the community to alleviate hunger. It provides food to more than 300,000 clients monthly and in 2015 distributed 62 million pounds of food. The Food Bank collects food from hundreds of resources, which it distributes through a network of 625 partner agencies throughout Los Angeles County. With the help of 27,000 volunteers annually, 97 percent of funds raised and in-kind donations go directly to programs. The Food Bank was recognized by the *LA Business Journal* as the Organization of the Year in 2013 for nonprofit organizations with an annual budget exceeding \$10 million. In November 2016, the Food Bank anticipates distributing its one billionth meal since its inception in 1973. For more information or to get involved, visit www.lafoodbank.org.

About Feeding America

Feeding America is the nationwide network of 200 food banks that leads the fight against hunger in the United States. Together, we provide food to more than 46 million people through 60,000 food pantries and meal programs in communities across America. Feeding America also supports programs that 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.