



Postal Carriers Enlist Public Support to Stamp Out Hunger

National food drive to support families at risk of hunger to take place on May 8th with an aggressive goal to collect one million pounds of food

San Francisco, CA (May 4, 2010) – On Saturday, May 8, people from across the country will partner with their letter carriers to help “Stamp Out Hunger”. Now in its 18th year, the Stamp Out Hunger! letter carriers food drive is the largest, single day effort to combat hunger in America and the largest single day food drive for the San Francisco Food Bank.

To participate, residents are asked to place a bag of non-perishable canned food items — like tuna, meats, peanut butter, stews, soup, vegetables, pasta, rice or cereal by their mailbox before their mail is delivered on Saturday, May 8. Letter carriers will collect the canned food items and deliver them back to the San Francisco Food Bank to be distributed to the community to help those at risk of hunger.

Last year, locally, the Stamp Out Hunger! letter carriers food drive raised 65,000 pounds of food for those in need in San Francisco. Nationally, letter carriers across the country collected a record total of more than 73.4 million pounds of food. Since its inception in 1983, the Stamp Out Hunger! letter carriers food drive has stocked 982.7 million pounds of non-perishable items on food bank shelves across the country. This year on May 8, it is expected to surpass the one billion pound milestone. One billion pounds of food would feed each California resident three meals a day for a week.

With hunger impacting 37 million people help is needed now more than ever before. One in eight Americans - including 14 million children and nearly three million seniors are at risk of hunger. In San Francisco, more than 150,000 people live at or below 150 percent of the Federal poverty line, experiencing very low food security - or hunger. “Hunger in our community continues to be a growing problem, but it's a problem that we can do something about. By supporting the Stamp Out Hunger! letter carriers food drive this Saturday, May 8, we can get food to those who need it the most,” said Paul Ash, Executive Director of the San Francisco Food Bank.

Members of the media are encouraged to visit the San Francisco Food Bank warehouse at 900 Pennsylvania Avenue in San Francisco on Saturday, May 8 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. to see the donations arrive from the Stamp Out Hunger! letter carriers food drive and to meet with San Francisco Food Bank employees, postal carriers and volunteers.

About the San Francisco Food Bank

Hunger is a serious problem in San Francisco – with 1 in 4 children and 1 in 5 adults at risk of hunger. Every day, the San Francisco Food Bank sources, collects, sorts, inspects and repackages thousands of pounds of food, then distributes it to soup kitchens, neighborhood grocery centers, school programs and seniors in need.

The San Francisco Food Bank serves 23,500 households weekly throughout San Francisco and Marin counties, and will distribute 39 million pounds of food to the community this year – enough for 83,000 meals every day. Over half of what is distributed is fresh produce. For more information, visit www.SFFoodBank.org.

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