



## SAN FRANCISCO FOOD BANK

### ***For Immediate Release***

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### **Community Food Providers to be honored at City Hall**

*Pantry Appreciation Day pays tribute to volunteers  
who distributed 21 million pounds of food to hungry in San Francisco*

**September 30, 2008 (San Francisco)** – 250 neighborhood food pantry coordinators, staff and volunteers will be honored at City Hall tomorrow by city officials and the San Francisco Food Bank for their “frontline work” distributing more than 21 million pounds of food each year to San Franciscans in need of food assistance.

The special *Pantry Appreciation Luncheon* will feature a proclamation from Mayor Gavin Newsom honoring the hard work of people who operate the Food Bank’s neighborhood food pantries as well as awards for pantries that have gone above and beyond.

“These people are on the front lines of the fight against hunger in San Francisco,” said Paul Ash, executive director of the San Francisco Food Bank. “They provide a dignified and respectful setting for people to get food in the neighborhoods where they live. Our volunteers represent the best of what it means to give something to your community.”

The San Francisco Food Bank currently operates more than 192 “farmers market”-style pantries in every neighborhood. The pantries, located at schools, churches, senior centers, synagogues and community centers provide fresh fruit, vegetables, and other basic healthy foods to almost 17,000 families every week.

**Date:** Wednesday, October 1, 2008  
**Time:** 12 noon – 1:00 pm  
**Location:** City Hall, South Light Court  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco CA 94102

#### **Interview/Photo Opportunity**

- Paul Ash, Executive Director San Francisco Food Bank
- Sara Miles, author and founder of St. Gregory’s Episcopal Church food pantry
- Community leaders from each Supervisor’s district

This year the San Francisco Food will distribute 33 million pounds of food this year – over 15 million pounds of it fresh fruit and vegetables. An estimated 150,000 people now face the threat of hunger every day – including 1 in 4 children and 1 in 3 seniors.

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*Member, America’s Second Harvest—The Nation’s Food Bank Network*