

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHATTANOOGA AREA FOOD BANK ASKS SERVICE AREA TO TAKE ACTION TO END HUNGER
Feeding America® Network Food Banks across the Country Promote Hunger Action Month™

Chattanooga, TN – This September the Chattanooga Area Food Bank, together with the Feeding America nationwide network of food banks, will mobilize across all 50 states in an effort to bring an end to hunger. Hunger Action Month is designed to inspire people to take action and raise awareness of the fact that 41 million Americans, including nearly 13 million children, are food insecure, according to the USDA.

In Southeast Tennessee and Northwest Georgia more than 136,960 people struggle with hunger and may not know where they'll find their next meal. That number includes one in 5 kids who may not have enough to eat.

September marks the eleventh year the Feeding America network of food banks has organized this annual call to action. This year the campaign will focus on the strong connections between hunger and health.

The Hunger Action Month 2018 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.

"We believe it's important that the families, seniors, veterans and children we serve have access to enough healthy food to reach their full potential; especially our children, who cannot grow, succeed or learn on an empty stomach," said Gina Crumbliss, Chattanooga Area Food Bank President and CEO.

Hunger Action Day®, the second Thursday in September, is a day where efforts across the country are focused for greater impact.

This year, on September 13th, the Chattanooga Area Food Bank asks supporters to share what they couldn't do without adequate nutrition by writing on an empty plate, "On an empty stomach I can't _____," and filling in the blank with something they couldn't achieve without the nutrition we need to thrive.

These photos can be posted to social media with #HungerActionMonth, @chattfoodbank and @FeedingAmerica to join the conversation.

In the greater Chattanooga area the Chattanooga Area Food Bank has many activities planned to engage the community in hunger relief and awareness building, we invite you to print out a copy of the "30 ways in 30 days" calendar.

"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," Aviv said. "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 Chattanooga Area Food Bank and other ways you can get involved for Hunger Action Month, please visit www.chattfoodbank.org/HAM or HungerActionMonth.org.

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About the Chattanooga Area Food Bank

Founded in 1972 and renamed in 1983, the Chattanooga Area Food Bank is committed to leading a network of partners in eliminating hunger and promoting better nutrition in our region. The Food Bank acquires and distributes healthy food across a 20-county service region including Southeast Tennessee and Northwest Georgia with help from its network of over 300 partner agencies. Last year alone, the Food Bank distributed over 15.1 million pounds of food (equal to 12.6 million meals) and served over 25,000 people each week. In addition to food provision, the Food Bank works to engage the public in the fight to end hunger and empower people to take

responsibility for their health and their lives. For more information or to find out how you can get involved, visit our [website](#), like us on [Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

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, find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).