

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Foodbank's Mobile Pantry Program to Receive \$30K from
Walmart Foundation and Virginia State Giving Advisory Council**

(Norfolk, VA) -- In a special presentation at Walmart's Armory Drive location in Franklin, on Saturday, June 13, the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore will be awarded a \$30,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation and the Virginia State Giving Advisory Council. The funds will be used to provide meals through the Foodbank's Mobile Pantry Program to children, seniors, and families struggling with hunger. Food is distributed Monday through Friday using a specialized Foodbank truck that visits pre-set locations where access to emergency food supplies are limited or lacking.

"Our Mobile Pantry Program has grown so much with the support of generous contributors like the Walmart Foundation," said Marianne F. Smith Vargas, CPO for the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore. "Last fiscal year, we were able to bring much needed food to nearly 25,000 individuals, and the need for this method of distribution continues to increase."

"This continues to be a priority program for Walmart because it allows the Foodbank to reach people who might otherwise not have access to food," said Walmart Market Manager Jade White. "Walmart has been extremely impressed with this service and we are delighted that the Walmart Foundation through the Virginia State Giving Council can once again help families in Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore gain access to these goods."

Delivering quality food items at drive-up or walk-up locations where access to food resources is extremely limited, the Mobile Pantry Program distributed over 1 million meals to those in need in fiscal year 2014. Providing pantry staples, fresh produce, meat, low-fat dairy, breads and other items, mobile pantries take the burden off of customers from having to travel longer distances to obtain emergency food assistance.

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Media Opportunity:

WHAT: The Walmart Foundation and Virginia State Giving Advisory Council will present a check for \$30,000 to representatives from the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore for funding of the Mobile Pantry Program.

WHEN: Saturday, June 13, from 10:00 - 11:30am

WHERE: Walmart, 1500 Armory Dr, Franklin, VA 23851
Media and all other attendees should enter through the front grocery entrance and gather near the produce section.

About the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia

The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, a member of Feeding America® and the Federation of Virginia Food Banks, has been providing food for those facing hunger since 1981. To date, we have distributed over 230.5 million meals throughout our service area, which includes the cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Franklin, and Virginia Beach as well as the counties of Southampton, Northampton, Sussex, Isle of Wight, and Accomack.

About Walmart and the Walmart Foundation

In 2014, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation gave **\$1.4 billion** in cash and in-kind contributions around the world. Global in-kind donations accounted for **\$1 billion**, while **\$309 million** was given in cash globally. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are leading supporters of food banks in the United States as part of their five-year \$2-billion commitment called “Fighting Hunger, Together” that focuses on food donations and collaborating with partnership organizations with the long-term goal of helping to end hunger in America. It is Walmart and the Walmart Foundation’s mission to create opportunities so people can live better. We consider it our responsibility to make a positive impact in the communities we serve. Whether it’s through the grants we provide to the thousands of organizations that share our mission or through the inspiring volunteer efforts of Walmart associates, we are passionate about helping people live better.

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Press Release

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