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Media Release

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Foodbank Celebrates Historic Milestone: Distributing 20 Million Pounds in One Year!

NORFOLK, VA | June 27, 2023 – The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore, the leading hunger-relief organization in Hampton Roads, is thrilled to announce a momentous achievement in its mission to eliminate hunger. For the first time, we have distributed an astounding 20 million pounds of food to individuals and families in need. This remarkable milestone marks a significant increase in our impact, ensuring that more people have access to nutritious meals than ever before.

This accomplishment holds even greater significance as it surpasses the results from the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, a time when financial support was greater than ever, and public attention placed us under the spotlight like never before. Since then, despite the decrease in available resources matched with a sustained increase in demand, our unwavering commitment propelled us to meet the evolving needs of our community.

“Our ability to distribute 20 million pounds of nutritious food in less than one year is a testament to the relentless dedication of our staff, the selflessness of our volunteers, and the unwavering support of our donors,” said Foodbank President and CEO Christopher Tan. “Their tireless efforts of addressing hunger head-on have made a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals and families in our community.”

It is with immense pride that we recognize the extraordinary contributions of our staff members who have worked diligently to ensure the smooth operation of our organization. Their collaboration and expertise – paired with unwavering determination and passion – have been instrumental in making a positive impact on the lives of those who rely on our services.

The invaluable support of our volunteers has also played a vital role in achieving this historic milestone. Day in and day out, they have generously donated their time and energy to assist with various tasks. From sorting, packing, and distributing food to completing administration tasks around the office, their selflessness and commitment to our cause have been critical in providing resources to our most vulnerable neighbors.

Additionally, none of this would have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors who have consistently demonstrated their compassion for those experiencing food insecurity. Their financial contributions, food donations, and partnerships have enabled us to expand our reach and increase the scale of our operations. Their generosity has made it possible for us to meet the growing demand for food assistance and support more individuals and families in need.

As we celebrate this extraordinary accomplishment, we recommit ourselves to bringing hope and relief to those in their most difficult times. Together, we will continue to build a future where no one goes to bed hungry.

About the Foodbank

Since 1981, the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore has provided more than 380 million meals to those in our community who face hunger. Through our programs, facilities, and large network of community partners, we work to eliminate hunger daily. Our understanding of the need for a long-term solution has led to the creation of a refreshed strategic plan aimed at moving Hampton Roads closer to achieving the mission of eliminating hunger for those we serve—not only for the day, or for the week, but for a lifetime. For up-to-date information, visit foodbankonline.org or follow us on social media.