



For Immediate Release

Foodbank of Santa Barbara County

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Foodbank in Great Need to Feed Thousands during the Holiday Season!

Santa Barbara, CA. - The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County is working to feed thousands of hungry children, seniors, families and individuals during the 2008 holiday season. The activities began with a county wide Turkey Drive running from November 1 through the 25. The Foodbank needs at least 6,000 turkeys to be donated before Thanksgiving as well as monetary and non-perishable food donations.

The Foodbank is holding its Holiday Food Drive, November 1 through December 31, and can provide everything needed to run a successful food drive including: boxes, barrels, a food drive information kit, and a poster listing the needed items to make it easy for the community to participate in a holiday food drive at their business, school, church and organization. Green Food Drive barrels have been placed at all participating grocery stores throughout Santa Barbara County. Every dollar, non-perishable can of food, and turkey makes a tremendous difference in the lives of the hungry throughout Santa Barbara County.

Besides the traditional barrels people can also go the Foodbank's website at www.foodbanksbc.org and purchase food through the virtual food drive making it even easier to donate food and funds.

“Our neighbors go hungry 12 months out of the year, but this time of year, particularly in this rough economy, we have a tremendous need for food and money,” says Executive Director Erik Talkin, “we can help to brighten their holidays and provide the badly needed help through the winter months.”

Talkin wants the community to know that the availability of donated non-perishable food products from major manufacturers has decreased over the year along with the traditional food sources. “For every \$1 dollar donated the Foodbank can distribute \$7 dollars of food. All turkeys and food donated for the holiday is distributed without charge to those in need,” continued Talkin. “All donations are greatly appreciated.”

What: Annual Turkey Drive
November 1 – 25

Holiday Food Drive
November 1 – December 31

Where: Foodbank of Santa Barbara County
South County Warehouse
4554 Hollister Ave.
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
Phone: (805) 967-5741 ext 112

North County Warehouse
490 W. Foster Rd.
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Phone: (805) 937-3422 ext 106

About The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County – We are the largest hunger-relief organization in the county with a network of more than 220 member agencies and programs located between Morro Bay and Carpinteria. In 2007, we distributed over 7.5 million pounds of food locally and our member agencies used this food to feed more than 100,000 people. The programs receiving food from the Foodbank include food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, after-school programs, and senior programs. Hungry children make up 43% of the people receiving food from the Foodbank. For more on The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, please visit www.foodbanksbc.org

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