

FEEDING KENTUCKY ASKS KENTUCKIANS TO TAKE ACTION TO END HUNGER Feeding America® Network Food Banks across the Country Promote Hunger Action Month $^{\rm TM}$

[Frankfort, KY] – Aug. 27, 2019 – This September Feeding Kentucky joins Feeding America food banks across the country to take part in Hunger Action Month. Hunger Action Month is designed to inspire people to take action and raise awareness of the fact that 40 million Americans, including 12.5 million children and 5.5 million seniors, are food insecure.

Kentucky has the seventh highest rate in the nation of people struggling to put food on the table. In Kentucky, 662,000 people struggle with hunger and may not know where they will find their next meal. That number includes one in every five kids who may not have enough to eat.

This year's campaign seeks 40,000 actions – a volunteer shift, a social media post, or a donation – from the public that will help end hunger one helping at a time.

"Hunger in Kentucky is much closer than most people think," said Tamara Sandberg, Executive Director of Feeding Kentucky. "People facing hunger could be your neighbor, the student sitting next to your child in class, or the senior citizen in front of you at the checkout line. If we work together as a Commonwealth, we can end hunger. Every action counts."

Feeding Kentucky and its members have several activities planned in September to engage the community in hunger relief and awareness building, including:

- Hunger Action Month Open House on Thursday, August 29th from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm EDT at God's Pantry Food Bank in Lexington. Visit https://godspantry.org/events/hungeractionmonth.
- Rubber Duck Regatta on Sunday, September 1st in Cincinnati to benefit Freestore Foodbank.
 Visit www.rubberduckregatta.org
- Kentucky Hunger Dialogue on Saturday, September 7th at 8:30 am EDT hosted by Kentucky State University in Frankfort. Visit <u>eventbrite.com/e/the-hunger-dialogue-2019-hunger-is-not-a-game-registration-65124035744</u>
- Day of Service on Thursday, September 12th from 9 am to 7 pm EDT at Feeding America, Kentucky's Heartland Volunteer Center in Elizabethtown. Call 270-735-1407.
- Hunger Walk on Sunday, September 22nd at 2:15 pm at the Waterfront Park's Harbor Lawn in Louisville to benefit Dare to Care Food Bank. Visit daretocare.org.

"Hunger Action Month is a time for us to take action and help our neighbors and friends struggling to put food on the table," said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. "Every state and every county in this country have people facing hunger. Our network of food banks and partner food pantries and meal programs are positioned to serve all of them. You can help at the local level by volunteering, engaging, advocating and donating, and together we can end hunger one helping at a time."

To learn more about Feeding Kentucky and other ways you can get involved for Hunger Action Month in Kentucky, please visit FeedingKY.org or HungerActionMonth.org. You can also join the conversation by posting photos or stories to social media with #HungerActionMonth, @FeedingKY and @FeedingAmerica.

About Feeding Kentucky

Feeding Kentucky is the commonwealth's largest charitable response to hunger, representing Kentucky's 7 regional Feeding America food banks (Dare to Care Food Bank; Facing Hunger Foodbank; Feeding America, Kentucky's Heartland; Freestore Foodbank; God's Pantry Food Bank; Purchase Area Development District; and Tri-State Food Bank) and over 800 member charities including food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. Last year its members distributed the equivalent of 64 million meals to 1 in 7 Kentuckians across the commonwealth.

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