

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF FOODBANKS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 15, 2013

FIRST LADY KAREN KASICH ANNOUNCES “FeedOhio” CAMPAIGN *Food and funds drive to support Ohio foodbanks as part of Hunger Action Month*

STATEWIDE – Ohio’s First Lady Karen W. Kasich will join the Governor’s Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and faith-based and community groups throughout Ohio to lead a statewide food and funds drive to support Ohio foodbanks. The campaign, called FeedOhio, will encourage Ohioans to get involved and give what they can to help individuals and families struggling with hunger.

The First Lady and Governor John R. Kasich have been steadfast supporters of Ohio’s foodbanks since Governor Kasich took office, donating remaining campaign proceeds to weekend meals programs for hungry children. Since then, the Governor has provided several Executive Orders to keep foodbank shelves stocked with fresh, locally grown produce and to ensure that children have access to adequate nutrition during the summer months. The First Lady has remained engaged in hunger relief efforts as well, especially those that provide much-needed nutrition to growing children.

“With more than one in four children in Ohio struggling with food insecurity, this is an issue that resonates with me deeply,” said First Lady Kasich. “I am proud to be a part of this community-led effort to help individuals and families struggling with hunger. It’s important that we do what we can to support the most vulnerable members of our communities.”

From August 24 to September 11, volunteers from faith and community groups will be dropping off information door-to-door in many communities and neighborhoods throughout Ohio. Volunteers will encourage their neighbors to make a donation by check, credit card or online, or donate a bag or box filled with shelf-stable food products and personal care items. Food and items can be collected by a volunteer or delivered to designated drop-off points.

“Along with fellow members of the faith and service communities in Ohio, we believe in the importance of reaching out to those in need,” said Dr. D. Bradley Welling, president of the Columbus, Ohio Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. “We look forward to working with the First Lady and volunteers throughout the state to make a difference for those struggling with hunger.”

Donations raised through the FeedOhio campaign will benefit the Ohio Association of Foodbanks and their 12 member regional foodbanks who provide emergency food items to needy Ohioans in all 88 counties. To learn more about getting involved or to make a donation, visit www.ohiofoodbanks.org/feedohio.

About the Ohio Association of Foodbanks

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks is Ohio’s largest charitable response to hunger, representing Ohio’s 12 Feeding America foodbanks and 3,300 member charities including food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. In SFY 2012, the association and its member foodbanks were able to acquire and distribute over 164 million pounds of food and grocery items. Follow the association on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ohiofoodbanks), stay connected on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ohiofoodbanks) and visit them on the web at www.ohiofoodbanks.org.

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