

12/05/2008 Moran Encourages Kansans to Donate Food to Help The Hungry

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Residents May Contribute Items at One of Moran's District Offices

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran, who serves as co-chair of the U.S. House of Representatives Hunger Caucus, today launched a food drive in partnership with the Hays Community Assistance Center, the Food Bank of Reno County and Salina Emergency/Aid Food Bank to encourage Kansans to give food contributions in response to a critical need for donations. Moran will be accepting donations at his Hays, Hutchinson and Salina district offices (locations below). Donations will be accepted through December 19, 2008.

"This is a time where many Kansans are being forced to pinch their pennies," Moran said. "Those who rely on food bank donations are the most in need and, unfortunately, are also the ones feeling the pinch. During the Christmas season, I encourage those who are able to consider others in need and give what they can to help the hungry."

"Demand for food has increased this year and I believe it will get worse after the holiday," said Theresa Hill, Director of the Hays Community Assistance Center. "We typically see a drop in donations after January or February, but continue to give out food."

"The food bank in Hutchinson and others are really stretched right now," said David Lesperance, President of the Board of Directors for the Food Bank of Reno County. "Efforts like this to raise awareness come at a great time. It is nice to see that people will have food during the holidays."

"We had to reduce the amount [of food] we could distribute per household, in order to have enough for everyone," said Kathleen Jackson, Administrator of the Salina Emergency/Aid Food Bank. "At present, we are able to provide a 7-day food order per client without cutbacks, but we're anxious about what 2009 will bring."

Over the past year, cash and food donations to food banks around Kansas and the country have failed to meet an increasing demand. Moran is working with food banks to collect items to assist those in need in Kansas and to raise awareness about hunger in communities.

All donations will be distributed to individuals and families in need in Ellis, Reno and Saline Counties. Each food bank requests non-perishable items as donations.

To make a donation, please choose one of Moran's district offices:

Congressman Jerry Moran's Hays District Office

1200 Main Street, Suite 402, Hays

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

(785) 628-6401

Congressman Jerry Moran's Hutchinson District Office

1 N. Main, Suite 525, Hutchinson

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

(620) 665-6138

Congressman Jerry Moran's Salina District Office

119 West Iron, Suite 603, Salina

Open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

(785) 309-0572

Donations may also be taken to one of the following locations:

The Hays Community Assistance Center

208 E 12th St., Hays

Open 8:00 a.m. - Noon, Monday through Friday

(785) 625-9110

Food Bank of Reno County

700 N. Walnut, Hutchinson

Open 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m., Monday through Friday

(620-665-4076)

Salina Emergency/Aid Food Bank

255 S. Chicago, Salina

Open 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

(785-827-7111)

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