



Media Alert

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2017

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LETTER CARRIERS, HARVESTERS AND PRICE CHOPPER KICK OFF ANNUAL STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

What: Kick-off for 25 Annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

Who: Representatives from the Kansas City Area Letter Carriers, U.S. Postal Service, Harvesters – The Community Food Network, and Price Chopper Supermarkets along with local city officials will discuss the importance of the food drive during the kick-off event.

When: Friday, May 5, at 8 a.m.

Where: James Crews Post Office
2201 Truman Road
Kansas City, MO 64127

Background – Stamp Out Hunger, America’s largest single-day food drive, held this year on Saturday, May 13, is coordinated nationwide by local chapters of the National Association of Letter Carriers. In the Kansas City Metro, NALC representatives from both sides of the state line work together to collect food to help our area’s hungry citizens in partnership with the U.S. Postal Service, Harvesters – The Community Food Network, and Price Chopper.

Currently, 42 million Americans—1 in 8—do not know where their next meal is coming from. Nearly 13 million are children who feel hunger’s impact on their overall health and ability to perform in school. And more than five million seniors over age 60 are food insecure; many of whom live on fixed incomes are often embarrassed to ask for help.

The food drive’s timing is crucial. Food banks and pantries often receive the majority of their donations during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons. By springtime, many pantries are depleted, entering the summer low on supplies at a time when many school breakfast and lunch programs are not available to children in need.

How the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Works

Nearly 600,000 residents will receive plastic grocery bags, donated by Price Chopper, in their mailbox the week leading up to the food drive.

On Saturday, May 13, Letter Carriers encourage residents to place non-perishable food items into bags and leave them by their mailboxes. The mail carriers will pick up the donations and bring them to a collection site.

About U.S. Postal Service

A self-supporting government enterprise, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that reaches every address in the nation: 152 million residences, businesses and Post Office Boxes. The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. With more than 31,000 retail locations and the most frequently visited website in the federal government, usps.com, the Postal Service has annual revenue of more than \$65 billion and delivers nearly 40 percent of the world's mail.

About Harvesters

Harvesters is this area's only food bank and was Feeding America's 2011 Food Bank of the Year. Serving a 26-county area of northwestern Missouri and northeastern Kansas, Harvesters provides food and related household products to more than 620 not-for-profit agencies including emergency food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, children's homes and others. Agencies in Harvesters' network provide food assistance to as many as 141,500 people every month. Harvesters, which was founded in 1979, is a certified member of Feeding America, a nationwide network of more than 200 food banks, serving all 50 states. For more information, visit www.harvesters.org.

About Price Chopper

Price Chopper's 51 Kansas City stores are locally owned by the Ball, Cosentino, McKeever and Queen families, all of whom live in Kansas City and oversee store operations on a daily basis. For 38 years, the owners and employees of Price Chopper have been committed to providing the highest quality products and top-of-the-line customer service to the thousands of customers they serve every day. For more information, please visit www.mypricechopper.com.

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