Company Logo

Company Name

Contact Name

Contact phone number

Contact email address

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE <insert date>

***<Insert Company Name> to Host Food Drive to Benefit***

***Georgia Mountain Food Bank***

**Gainesville, Ga.—** According to a June 2016 report by the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC), Georgia ranks as the seventh most food insecure state in the country. In addition, almost 30 percent of people served through Georgia Mountain Food Bank’s (GMFB) partner agencies are seeking help for the first time in their lives. Many are hardworking people who have had a life event affect their ability to make ends meet, spotlighting the reality that one in five Georgians is considered food insecure. Because of these facts, <insert company name> decided to host a food and fund drive from <insert dates> to support people in need locally.

“The fact that hunger exists right here in our own community is unacceptable,” says <insert name/title/company name>. “We were looking for an opportunity to help our community and decided partnering with GMFB was a perfect fit.”

<Insert company name> is collecting food and monetary donations from <insert dates>, specifically asking the community to consider donating healthy, shelf-stable foods including items low in sodium and sugar and high in fiber or protein including:

* Whole grain pasta
* Canned spaghetti sauce
* Peanut butter and jelly (low sugar)
* Canned meat (chicken, tuna, roast beef)
* Canned fruit (no sugar added)
* Cereal (low sugar)
* Oatmeal or cereal
* Canned vegetables (low sodium)
* Canned meals (i.e. Chef Boyardee, soups, tuna)

In addition to food, they will also be collecting funds.

 “For every $10 we collect, the food bank can provide 50 meals,” said <insert name>, adding that the GMFB can make a significant impact with even small donations. “That is a powerful return on investment, so if you don’t have a chance to pick up food for our drive, please still feel free to provide a donation.”

In 2016 GMFB made great strides in its fight against hunger including:

* Distributed more food than the year before, a number that continues to rise each year with more than 32 million pounds that have passed through our warehouse. since 2008 to agencies, programs and special projects.
* Served more than 25,000 people monthly through our 65 partner agencies.
* Hosted more than 4,388 volunteers who donated more than 11,690 hours of service. *(calendar year Jan – Nov 2016)*
* Received the proceeds from more than 100 community food drives collecting more than 68,000 pounds of food. *(calendar year Jan – Nov 2016)*
* Built relationships with corporate food donors receiving more than 600,000 pounds of food.

“At Georgia Mountain Food Bank, we believe that by working together we can solve hunger,” said Kay Blackstock, executive director at GMFB. “It is through community collaborations, tremendous support of our corporate and community partners, and relationships with our agencies that we can accomplish work like this and begin to make an impact on hunger in the five counties we serve.”

GMFB’s five-county service area includes Hall, Forsyth, Dawson, Union and Lumpkin counties and they have a goal to collect 100,000 pounds of food through local food/fund drives by June 30, 2017.

To learn more about GMFB visit gamountainfoodbank.org or call 770-534-4111. To learn more about the <Insert company name> Food/Fund Drive call <insert contact name>, at <insert contact phone number>.

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**About Georgia Mountain Food Bank**

Georgia Mountain Food Bank (GMFB), an affiliate of the Atlanta Community Food Bank (ACFB), collects surplus food and grocery products for distribution to nonprofit partner agencies serving the hungry in the Georgia Mountain region. Located in Gainesville, GMFB collaborates with ACFB to provide food to nonprofits with hunger relief programs in Dawson, Forsyth, Hall, Lumpkin and Union counties. These programs provide direct assistance to families and individuals who are in need of food assistance due to job loss or low income. For more information about the Georgia Mountain Food Bank, visit [www.gamountainfoodbank.org](http://www.gamountainfoodbank.org/).