



For Immediate Release
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THE WEST TEXAS FOOD BANK OBSERVING HUNGER ACTION MONTH

September is Hunger Action Month and the Food Bank is Taking Action

ODESSA, TX, September 9, 2020 --- **This September the West Texas Food Bank**, together with the Feeding America nationwide network of food banks, will mobilize across all 50 states in an effort to bring an end to hunger. Hunger Action Month is designed to inspire people to take action and raise awareness to the fact that millions of Americans are food insecure, according to the USDA.

In West Texas, tens of thousands of people struggle with hunger and may not know where they'll find their next nutritious meal. That number includes one in five kids who may not have enough to eat. Studies suggest that with the recent downturn in our economy due to COVID, the food insecurity level in West Texas is up 20%.

September marks the thirteenth year the Feeding America network of food banks has organized this annual call to action. This year the campaign will focus encouraging the public to take action against hunger.

"This Hunger Action Month looks a bit different from those in the past," said Libby Campbell, Executive Director of the West Texas Food Bank. "As we continue to follow the guidelines of social distancing, we are encouraging small groups and individuals to volunteer at the Food Bank, and we are also taking donations on our website. While we will miss the huge volunteer events and food drives, there are still safe ways to help the Food Bank, like signing up to host a virtual food drive on our website. Helping our neighbors is the name of the game, and West Texans sure know how to step up!"

Thursday, September 10th, is Hunger Action Day. To bring focus to the issue of hunger in our communities, Sound Foundation is lighting the Midland Food Bank facility in orange, the color of hunger. Come check it out after the sun goes down.

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About the West Texas Food Bank

The West Texas Food Bank (WTFB) is a nonprofit hunger relief organization that distributes donated and purchased food through a network of 80+ Partner Agencies in 19 counties throughout West Texas. The WTFB supports the nutritional needs of children, families and senior citizens through strategic partnerships with civic and corporate groups, as well as private donors. Every dollar donated provides four meals for the hungry, and 92 cents of every dollar goes directly to feed hungry West Texans. Founded in 1985, the WTFB is a member of Feeding America (feedingamerica.org), the nation's largest network of hunger relief organizations. In 2019, over 6.2 million pounds of food was distributed to hungry West Texans.