

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September is Hunger Action Month

More than 50 million people in the US face hunger; Go orange in September to show support

Washington, DC, Aug. 28 – The Capital Area Food Bank will join with civic and business leaders from the Washington metro area, and hunger advocates across the country this September to raise awareness of the issue of hunger affecting more than 50 million people in the U.S. and 700,000 here in the nation's capital and surrounding region.



Nancy Roman, CAFB President and CEO said, "We are spreading the word about the issue of hunger in our

community and asking neighbors to be part of the solution. In the Washington metro area, 150,000 children are at risk of hunger and 16.7 million children nationally. We invite schools, businesses, churches, neighborhood clubs and others to help us end hunger one neighborhood at a time by taking action this month – and continuing throughout the year."

"It's a shame that in the 'land of plenty' we have neighbors and friends who have to worry about where they will get their next meal," said Bob Aiken, CEO of Feeding America. "By raising awareness and working together, we can solve hunger."

Over the course of <u>Hunger Action Month</u>, the Capital Area Food Bank has organized easy ways to take action at home, at work and online *all month long*. Some ways to take action include:

- **Giving back** Volunteers are encouraged to <u>sign up for a shift</u> at the Capital Area Food Bank. Signing up to <u>become a Neighborhood Captain</u> is another great way to engage friends and neighbors about the solutions to end hunger.
- **Spreading the word.** To celebrate <u>Go Orange Day</u> on September 5 and bring awareness of the issue of hunger in our community throughout September, people across the country will go orange by wearing orange apparel and changing out their social media avatars with orange logos.
- Joining the conversation. Capital Area Food Bank is hosting a Blog Carnival for Hunger Action Month on September 4. Participants will learn what leaders and experts say about

how we can solve hunger in our region and are encouraged to submit feedback.

- Attending an event By attending <u>CANstruction at the National Building Museum</u> (August 31 – September 7) and <u>Feed the Need</u> - a Taste of the Town fundraising event for the Crystal City/Pentagon City community on September 14, participants help raise awareness and funds for the Capital Area Food Bank.
- Learning more The <u>Capital Area Food Bank hunger quiz</u> is a way to quickly learn about hunger in the Washington metro area. One can further their knowledge on the topic of food waste by attending the <u>Northern Virginia Hunger Summit</u> on September 27.

The Capital Area Food Bank, a member of Feeding America, was founded on January 15 – Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday – in 1980 and takes a comprehensive approach to addressing hunger by increasing access to nutritious food, initiating change through skill-building and advocacy, and creating sustainability with outreach and training for those at risk of hunger. The CAFB is the Washington metro area's largest public, nonprofit food and nutrition education resource. For more information, *go to www.capitalareafoodbank.org*

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