



## Press Release

For Immediate Release  
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### Local grocers collect more than \$14,000 for Ozarks Food Harvest

**SPRINGFIELD (Mar. 12, 2010)**—Eleven Ozarks grocers collected nearly \$14,500 for Ozarks Food Harvest’s annual CHECK OUT HUNGER™ campaign.

**Akin’s, Dillons, Harter House and Smillie’s** in Springfield, and the following grocers across southwest Missouri: **Country Mart, Price Cutter, Ramey and Smitty’s** stores, **Murfins Market, Summer Fresh Supermarket** and **Woods Supermarket**, asked shoppers to add a \$1 donation to their grocery bills for The Food Bank this winter.

After just receiving the last store check, Ozarks Food Harvest announces the combined total is \$14,483 collected to help feed those who access hunger relief services across 29 southwest Missouri counties.

“We are truly grateful for the support of nearly 60 local hometown grocery stores who partner with us each year,” said Denise Gibson, Development Director at Ozarks Food Harvest. “It has been a tough time for so many people, yet community members still found it in their hearts to give a few extra dollars in the check out lane, which really adds up. We thank you, Ozarks!”

Ozarks Food Harvest is the only food bank in southwest Missouri, serving more than 350 hunger relief organizations across 29 Ozarks counties. The Food Bank distributes more than seven million pounds of food annually, made possible due to its network of charities and direct-relief programs such as the Weekend Backpack Program™, Kids Cafe® and the Mobile Food Pantry™ program. Learn more at [ozarksfoodharvest.org](http://ozarksfoodharvest.org).

To learn more about Ozarks Food Harvest’s annual CHECK OUT HUNGER™ campaign, contact The Food Bank’s Public Relations & Special Events Coordinator, [Lindsey Neddenriep](#), at (417) 865-3411.

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\*\*Store Donation breakout & Check Out Hunger™ artwork available upon request.

Transform Hunger into Hope™ at [ozarksfoodharvest.org](http://ozarksfoodharvest.org)

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