



## Media Release

For Immediate Release  
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### The Food Bank asks the Ozarks to raise 100,000 lbs. of Food

SPRINGFIELD – Beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>, Ozarks Food Harvest and KTTS will work together to raise more than 100,000 lbs. of food during *Hunger Action Month*.

The food drive is part of the month-long national hunger education campaign coordinated by *Feeding America™*, the nation's largest charitable hunger-relief organization.

*Hunger Action Month* will feature a message of hunger awareness, delivered in part by country music sensation Phil Vassar. Vassar has agreed to be the voice of *Hunger Action Month* through a national partnership with Country Music Television (CMT).

Throughout the month of September, Vassar and CMT will deliver a message highlighting the problem America faces when it comes to hunger nationwide. Vassar has also rewritten his hit song '*Prayer for a Common Man*' with a verse describing hunger, which will feature Leann Rhimes.

Locally, the partnership between Ozarks Food Harvest and KTTS will allow both groups to further educate Ozarkers on the prevalence of hunger in southwest Missouri. Currently, more than 150,000 people live in poverty in the Ozarks.

The food drive should also help The Food Bank through the late summer months, which are the slowest when it comes to donations and have left its warehouse nearing empty. Community members can drop off non-perishable food items at Ozarks Food Harvest (615 N. Glenstone), the KTTS studio (2330 W. Grand) or during the weekend of September 21-22 at Battlefield Mall.

Ozarks Food Harvest works with more than 350 hunger relief organizations, reaching more than 41,000 people each month in 29 southwest Missouri counties. Ozarks Food Harvest distributes more than 5 million pounds of food annually to its network of agencies, and offers direct relief through its Kids Cafe, Food for Thought, Club F.U.N. and Mobile Food Pantry programs.

For more information contact Matt Petcoff with Ozarks Food Harvest at 417-865-3411. Included in this packet is more information regarding *Hunger Action Month*, both locally and nationwide.

To learn more about Ozarks Food Harvest and how you can help *Transform Hunger Into Hope™*, visit [ozarksfoodharvest.org](http://ozarksfoodharvest.org).

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

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