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## **MOARK, LLC MAKES AN EGG-STRAORDINARY DONATION OF MORE THAN 43,000 EGGS TO OZARKS FOOD HARVEST**

### *Farmers to Donate More Than 12 Million Eggs to Feeding America This Easter*

**SPRINGFIELD, MO** (March 31, 2009) — Ozarks Food Harvest is 'egg-static' over a generous donation of more than **43,000 eggs** from egg farmer **MoArk, LLC**, to help feed local residents in need. Stretched out shell to shell (each egg is approximately two and a half inches long), the **43,200** donated eggs equals **1.7 miles** of eggs.

"Helping neighboring families in need is of the utmost importance to our industry," said Craig Willardson, president of MoArk, LLC. "We're proud to offer our help and support when the community needs it now more than ever."

In southwest Missouri, the only food bank, Ozarks Food Harvest, is serving more than 155,000 individuals annually—nearly three times as many people previously estimated. Counties within Ozarks Food Harvest's service area have some of the highest poverty rates in Missouri, and a number of these counties also have some of the highest childhood food insecurity rates in the state.

"Protein is many times the most difficult food category for The Food Bank to acquire," said Bart Brown, President/CEO of Ozarks Food Harvest. "A donation of this magnitude will really go a long way in feeding the children, families and seniors across our 29-county service area. We are truly thankful for this donation from MoArk."

For the third year in a row, United Egg Producers and Feeding America are teaming up in the fight against hunger and local egg farmers across America are dropping off truckloads of much needed protein to local food banks just in time for Easter. Leading up to April 4, egg farmers nationwide will be donating more than 12 million eggs to help make sure America's food banks are well stocked with nutrient-dense eggs.

"United Egg Producers' members are dedicated to helping their local communities," said Gene Gregory, president of United Egg Producers. "Our hope is that this donation during the Easter holiday makes a significant difference in the lives of many people who live at risk of hunger."

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### **About United Egg Producers**

United Egg Producers (UEP) is the nation's leading trade association for U.S. egg farmers, representing 97 percent of U.S. egg farmers, whose members produce eggs including modern cage production, cage-free, free range, organic and other specialty eggs. UEP is based in Alpharetta, GA. To learn more about the egg industry visit [www.uepcertified.com](http://www.uepcertified.com).

### **About Ozarks Food Harvest**

Ozarks Food Harvest is the only food bank in southwest Missouri and serves more than 350 hunger relief organizations, reaching 155,000 people annually across 29 Ozarks counties. The Food Bank distributes between seven and nine million pounds of food each year—made possible due to its network of charities and direct service programs such as the Weekend Backpack Program™, Kids Cafe® and the Mobile Food Pantry™ program. Transform Hunger into Hope™ at [ozarksfoodharvest.org](http://ozarksfoodharvest.org) or at [facebook.com/ozarksfoodharvest](https://facebook.com/ozarksfoodharvest).

### **About Feeding America**

Feeding America provides low-income individuals and families with the fuel to survive and even thrive. As the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, our network members supply food to more than 37 million Americans each year, including 14 million children and 3 million seniors. Serving the entire United States, more than 200 member food banks support 63,000 agencies that address hunger in all of its forms. For more information on how you can fight hunger in your community and across the country, visit <http://www.feedingamerica.org>. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/FeedingAmerica](https://facebook.com/FeedingAmerica) or follow our news on Twitter at [twitter.com/FeedingAmerica](https://twitter.com/FeedingAmerica).