



O Z A R K S
Food Harvest

The Food Bank

Press Release

**For Immediate Release
January 23, 2008**

For More Information Contact:
Bruce Miller, US Army, 417-865-9090 ext. 2388
Lindsey Neddenriep, OFH, 417-865-3411

US Army to collect food at local Wal-Marts for Ozarks Food Harvest

Springfield, Mo. – Local US Army officials will collect food and supplies for Ozarks Food Harvest on Saturday, January 26 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Wal-Mart Supercenters on E. Independence and N. Kansas in Springfield.

Officials are asking shoppers to purchase additional groceries for the needy this month. The crews at each location will put shoppers' donations in the on-site trucks, and deliver to The Food Bank which serves 29 counties across the Ozarks. Individuals will also scout for food in area neighborhoods.

“Donations we receive at the beginning-of-the-year are so vital for those we serve every month, Lindsey Neddenriep, the food bank’s public relations coordinator said. “While most people plan their futures at the start of the New Year, this is just an impossible luxury for the nearly 150,000 people who live in poverty in southwest Missouri.”

According to Neddenriep, Ozarks Food Harvest is in need of food items rich in protein such as canned tuna, chicken and salmon. Other requested canned and boxed foods include soup, chili, stew and macaroni and cheese. Peanut butter, canned or dried beans and peas, pasta and rice, canned fruits, cereal, and fruit juice are also needed.

Ozarks Food Harvest distributes nearly five million pounds of food annually to its network of 323 hunger relief agencies in 29 southwest Missouri counties. The Food Bank also offers direct relief through its Kids Cafe after-school feeding program, Food for Thought backpack program, and the Mobile Food Pantry program.

To learn more about the US Army food drive, call Bruce Miller at (417) 865-9090 ext. 2388. For information about Ozarks Food Harvest, call Lindsey Neddenriep at 865-3411 or Transform Hunger into Hope at ozarksfoodharvest.org.

###