



UTAH
FOOD
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL SCOUTS HOPE TO COLLECT OVER 1 MILLION MEALS FOR UTAHNS

Utah Food Bank & Local Scouts are “Going Green” in the Fight Against Hunger

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH – March 9, 2015 – Utah Food Bank and its partner agencies across the state are working with the Boy Scouts of America to help *Fight Hunger Statewide* during the 29th annual Scouting for Food, scheduled for Saturday, March 21. This food drive comes at a critical time when supplies at Utah Food Bank and emergency food pantries are beginning to thin following the holiday season.

“It is so rewarding to see the Boy Scouts of America, the Utah National Parks Council, the Trapper Trails Council, the Great Salt Lake Council, and the Utah National Guard all working together to help fight hunger within their own communities,” said Ginette Bott, Utah Food Bank chief development officer. “The food gathered across the state will have a great impact on the one in five Utah kids at risk of missing a meal today.”

This year’s food drive will have a different look and feel – in an effort to “Go Green,” Scouts will be distributing reminder door hangers in lieu of donation bags during the week of March 16. Utah residents are encouraged to fill any bag or box with non-perishable food items to leave on their doorstep by 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 21. Local Scouts will be going door-to-door collecting the donations that will then be delivered to Utah Food Bank, regional food banks, and emergency food pantries statewide. Alternatively, donations can be dropped off at your local food pantry or regional food bank, or at Utah Food Bank, located at 3150 South 900 West in Salt Lake City. For residents interested in supporting the Scout’s efforts financially, they can take the door hanger they receive to any Smith’s Food & Drug Store between March 20 and March 23, where they can donate at check stands.

Donated food should be commercially packaged and non-perishable items low in sodium, sugar, and corn syrup. Most needed food items include beef stew, chili, peanut butter, boxed meals, canned meats, and canned fruits and vegetables. “The food donations received from our community will be used to help our neighbors and friends,” said Bott. “You can’t tell if someone is hungry by just looking at them.

They look a lot like you and me, and they need our help.” For more information about Scouting for Food or to find a local food pantry, visit www.utahfoodbank.org/scouting.

About Utah Food Bank

Utah Food Bank provides food to a statewide network of 134 emergency food pantries and agencies. Last fiscal year, Utah Food Bank distributed 37.5 million pounds of food and goods, the equivalent of approximately 31.3 million meals, to families and individuals in need. Utah Food Bank also served close to 245,000 Kids Cafe meals, delivered almost 41,000 food boxes and filled more than 60,000 kids' backpacks to ensure hunger-free weekends. For more information about Utah Food Bank, visit www.utahfoodbank.org. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UtahFoodBank and Twitter at www.twitter.com/UtahFoodBank.

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