



3rd Annual Hunger Free Summer Campaign Launches With Help Of Southeast Michigan Executives

*Program Underwriter & Match Donor Charter One Foundation Joined in Match Support by
Eleven Additional Corporate and Community Partners*

(June 13, 2013 – Detroit, MI) ... Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan (Gleaners) and the Charter One Foundation are partnering again to provide 2 million meals to hungry children in Southeast Michigan this summer. The Hunger Free Summer campaign kicked off today with an Executive Volunteer event at Detroit's Rattlesnake Club.

In addition to the underwriting support from the Charter One Foundation, donations will be matched dollar-for-dollar by: Ford Motor Company Fund, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Epoch Hospitality Group, David & Cherie A. Bazy, the Joshua (Jim) and Eunice Stone Foundation, Grainger, Rattlesnake Club, Andiamo Restaurant Group, American Specialty Oils, Baker Tilly and Jenkins & Company. Every \$1 donation provides six nutritious meals for hungry children in southeast Michigan.

In southeast Michigan, nearly 320,000 children receive free or reduced-fee meals during the school year. When school ends, these children and their families will struggle to make up those lost meals. One in four children in Michigan live in poverty and are food insecure. An estimated \$130.5 billion is spent on the treatment of illness linked to hunger and food insecurity.

During the ten-week Hunger Free Summer campaign, ending September 3rd, Gleaners will provide 2 million meals through their Summer Food Service, school-based mobile pantry and Backpack programs, as well as their extensive network of nearly 600 partner soup kitchens, pantries and shelters.

"The Hunger Free Summer program directly addresses childhood hunger head-on. This program means children will know they have nutritious food during their summer vacation when otherwise they would go hungry." said Ken Marblestone president, RBS Citizens and Charter One in Michigan and Ohio. "This is why the Charter One Foundation has been working with Gleaners for more than seven years to address child food insecurity issues. Together with our corporate partners and the residents of southeastern Michigan we can all make a difference."

More than 40 CEOs, executives and business leaders from across southeast Michigan packed backpacks full of nutritious food. Starting tomorrow, and in the weeks ahead, over 120 Hunger Free Summer feeding programs will receive nutritious lunches and other food. Ken Marblestone led a brief press conference summarizing this year's Hunger Free Summer campaign; Janet Lawson of Ford Motor Company Fund, Chris Gould from Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Paul Hess from Epoch Hospitality Group shared the reasons their companies continue to support this essential initiative and asked the gathered business leaders to join the effort and to help mobilize our community to join in the effort.

"The number of school children who qualify for free meals keeps rising," says Gleaners President DeWayne Wells. "When summer vacation starts, many of these kids lose their most reliable source of nutrition. Hunger Free Summer helps make up those missing meals and keeps kids happy, healthy and ready to learn when school starts again in the fall."

Now through September 3, 2013, donations can be made:

- Online at www.hungerfreesummer.org
- Calling 866-GLEANER (453-2637)
- Text "HFS" to 51555

(a \$10 donation will be added to donor's cell phone bill-message & data rates may apply)

- Checks by mail: Hunger Free Summer, P.O. Box 1380, Troy, MI 48099

Twitter @HungerFreeSummer and www.facebook.com/HungerFreeSummer

Media Only: For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact:

Marcy Hayes/C&B Scene (Gleaners): 248.336.8360 or Elizabeth Dryden/Charter One Foundation: 248.226.7750

About Gleaners Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan (Gleaners)

Founded in 1977, Gleaners is one of the oldest and largest food banks in the country. Today it distributes more than 46 million pounds of emergency food annually, equivalent to 106,000 meals per day. Headquartered in Detroit, Gleaners operates a total of five distribution centers in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties, which provide food to nearly 600 partner soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters and other agencies throughout southeastern Michigan. Of every dollar donated, Gleaners uses 93 cents for food and food programs. One dollar provides three meals for a hungry neighbor. Learn more at www.gcfb.org.

About the Charter One Foundation

Charter One Foundation is a subsidiary of the Citizens Charitable Foundation, which is a charitable contributions vehicle of RBS Citizens Financial Group, Inc., RBS Citizens, N.A. and Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania. The foundation's support is focused on human services, affordable housing and economic development. Charter One's website is charterone.com.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

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