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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Stamp Out Hunger: NALC's Annual Food Drive Returns to Sonoma County, May 11

**SANTA ROSA, CA (April 16, 2023)** – Get ready to make a difference! The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) is gearing up for its annual food drive, scheduled for Saturday, May 11. Since its inception in 1993, NALC's food drive has played a crucial role in assisting families grappling with food insecurity by providing essential support to the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

In Sonoma County, hunger shadows 1 in 6 residents, spanning across generations from children to seniors. On May 11, the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive offers a simple yet impactful opportunity for our community to lend a helping hand.

Residents can seamlessly participate by placing non-perishable food items beside their mailboxes on Saturday, May 11. As letter carriers traverse their postal routes, they'll scoop up these donations, channeling them toward the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

This initiative couldn't come at a more critical time. With food banks and pantries still reeling from the winter crunch and the impending summer break sidelining school meal programs, community support is indispensable.

"Last year, our community demonstrated remarkable generosity by contributing 47,562 pounds of food to the Redwood Empire Food Bank through the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. As we navigate this year, the importance of community support remains paramount, especially with the ongoing high demand for food assistance. Additionally, the upcoming summer break, which suspends school meal programs, exacerbates the challenges faced by those in need." stated Rachelle Mesheau, Marketing and PR Manager of the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

On May 11, alongside their usual mail rounds, letter carriers will collect donations left by residents. Folks are encouraged to leave sturdy bags containing essentials like canned tuna, peanut butter, pasta, or rice. Every contribution counts, making a tangible difference in the lives of local families.

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For those seeking further details about the drive in their vicinity, reaching out to their letter carrier, local post office, or visiting nalc.org/food-drive, facebook.com/StampOutHunger, or twitter.com/StampOutHunger is advised.

## About the Redwood Empire Food Bank

The Redwood Empire Food Bank is the largest hunger-relief organization serving Northern California. Since 1987, the Redwood Empire Food Bank has provided food and nourishment to those facing hunger—serving more than 140,000 children, families, and seniors in Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties. With over 300 direct service distributions and 150 partnerships with local human service organizations, all residents facing food insecurity have regular access to weekly and monthly food distribution sites across the five counties.

Visit refb.org or call 707-523-7900 to learn more.

## More about the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

NALC's Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive was first held in 1983 to help feed millions of Americans. Today, 10,000 cities and towns in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam participate. It is the country's largest one-day food drive, providing residents with an easy way to donate food to those in need. In the 30 years since it began, the food drive has collected about 1.82 billion pounds of food for struggling residents.