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# CONAGRA BRANDS FOUNDATION SETS MEAL GOAL OF 3 MILLION MEALS FOR 2022 SHINE THE LIGHT ON HUNGER CAMPAIGN All proceeds benefit Food Bank for the Heartland's food relief efforts

(OMAHA, Neb.) November 17, 2022— For the 16th consecutive year, Conagra Brands and Conagra Brands Foundation invite the Omaha community to help "Shine the Light on Hunger" this holiday season in conjunction with the Holiday Lights Festival.

"Conagra Brands Foundation is proud to continue its longstanding support as lead sponsor of Shine the Light on Hunger," said Robert Rizzo, Senior Director, Community Investment for Conagra Brands. "Families in our community need our help and it is important to bring awareness to food insecurity and support local food relief efforts."

This year, Shine the Light on Hunger includes an ambitious goal of raising the equivalent of 3 million meals to support the hunger relief efforts led by the Food Bank, a goal which can be achieved with the support of the Omaha Metro's very generous community. Opportunities to participate in this year's campaign include:

- Picking up extra nonperishable food items while shopping at Baker's Supermarkets in Omaha
  and Bellevue and dropping them in the blue barrels upon exiting the store. The Food Bank's
  most-needed nonperishable food items include macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, canned
  fruits and vegetables, rice (bags or boxes), beans (canned or bags), pasta, pasta sauce, pancake
  mix, canned tuna, canned chicken, and boxed meals.
- Bringing nonperishable items when visiting local arts and culture organizations this season.
   Omaha's arts and culture organizations remain steadfast partners in the Shine the Light on
  Hunger campaign, and have blue collection barrels located in their facilities. A full list of drop off
  locations can be found at www.HolidayLightsFestival.org/Shine-The-Light-On-Hunger/.
- Visiting the Baker's Supermarket at 132<sup>nd</sup> and West Maple Road on Saturday, November 19 between 10am and 12pm to participate in a Stuff-the-Truck event. While you shop, at Baker's, you can purchase non-perishable items to then fill the Food Bank for the Heartland's truck stationed outside the store.
- Feeding the community by feeding the special red and white striped parking meters provided by Park Omaha. All proceeds from the meters benefit Food Bank for the Hunger and the Shine the Light on Hunger campaign, and specific locations can be found at <a href="https://www.HolidayLightsFestival.org/Shine-The-Light-On-Hunger/">www.HolidayLightsFestival.org/Shine-The-Light-On-Hunger/</a>.

- Bringing non-perishable food items with you on Sunday, December 4th to the free KETV Family
  Festival from 11am to 4pm. Each of the five venues will have collection receptacles on-site
  where non-perishable food items can be dropped.
- Tuning into KETV Channel 7 on Wednesday, December 14 to participate in KETV's "Giving Wednesday" in support of Shine the Light on Hunger and Food Bank for the Heartland. Viewers can tune in throughout the day to learn more about the Food Bank and will be encouraged to give through KETV's fundraising page and the Food Bank's website.
- Making monetary donations by visiting <u>www.FoodBankHeartland.org</u>.

Food insecurity impacts 1 in 10 Heartland individuals—with 1 in 7 being children. The Shine the Light on Hunger campaign is a rallying call to leaders, businesses and families throughout the local community to support front-line hunger relief efforts and provide meals for those in need. All proceeds benefit Food Bank for the Heartland and the work they do to support and empower the community.

"We are grateful for—and humbled by—the steadfast support from all who come together to make this season brighter for thousands of Heartland neighbors struggling to put food on the table," adds Brian Barks, Food Bank for the Heartland President and CEO. "Omaha is such a generous city and this is reaffirmed year after year with the success of the Shine the Light on Hunger campaign."

To encourage the public's participation in the campaign, every gift made before December 31 will be matched up to \$320,000. This includes a generous match of \$100,000 from the Conagra Brands Foundation, \$100,000 from the Scoular Foundation, \$100,000 from Farm Credit Services of America, and \$20,000 from Baker's Supermarkets' Zero Hunger Zero Waste commitment.

The Shine the Light on Hunger campaign reinforces the significant commitment by Conagra Brands and Conagra Brands Foundation to improve the quality of life for millions of families by taking action to impact the issue of hunger. Taking a year-round approach with nonprofit partners across the U.S., Conagra Brands contributes funds, donates food, engages its employees as volunteers, and helps raise awareness to mobilize the public to support food and meal programs for people when they need it most.

For more information visit <a href="www.HolidayLightsFestival.org">www.HolidayLightsFestival.org</a> and click on the "Shine the Light on Hunger" tab.

# **About Holiday Lights Festival**

In 1999, a coalition of city officials, corporations, and foundations chose to present a legacy gift of holiday lights to the City of Omaha as the Millennium Lights celebration. The Downtown Omaha Inc. Foundation was established the following year, and the Millennium Lights officially transformed to the Holiday Lights Festival. Since then, the Festival has become an annual celebration of Omaha's holiday spirit, complete with free, family-friendly events scheduled throughout the entire holiday season. In

2007, the Holiday Lights Festival added the Shine the Light on Hunger campaign, sponsored by Conagra Brands Foundation and in partnership with Food Bank for the Heartland. For more information on the 2022 Holiday Lights Festival, visit <a href="www.HolidayLightsFestival.org">www.HolidayLightsFestival.org</a> and follow the Festival on both Facebook and Instagram.

## **About Conagra Brands Foundation**

Conagra Brands Foundation believes everyone has a right to healthy and nutritious food, while recognizing that food insecurity exists in every U.S. county. The Foundation partners with exceptional national and local nonprofits with high-impact programs located in the communities where we live and work. By focusing our efforts within five areas: Direct Food Access, Cooking Skills, Nutrition Education, Healthy and Active Lifestyles and Urban Agriculture, we are able to be a leader in the fight against food insecurity in North America.

# About Food Bank for the Heartland (a member of Feeding America):

Founded in 1981 and headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, Food Bank for the Heartland—a member of Feeding America—is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a vital focus: to provide nourishment to Heartland neighbors facing food insecurity with respect, integrity, and urgency. Food Bank for the Heartland works with 544 network partners in 93 counties across Nebraska and western lowa offering multiple hunger-relief and nutrition programs. The Food Bank is currently providing, on average, more than 2.2 million meals each month. For more information, visit FoodBankHeartland.org.

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