FEEDING AMERICA RIVERSIDE | SAN BERNARDINO BEGINS OFFERING HUB SERVICE TO HIGH DESERT AGENCIES MEETING BASIC NEEDS

HIGH DESERT SECOND CHANCE, SERVING AS HUB FOR THE HIGH DESERT FOOD COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM, RECEIVED 17,338 POUNDS OF FOOD FOR DISTRIBUTION TO 16 NON-PROFITS

Hesperia, CA – September 13, 2018 – Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB), began monthly hub service to 16 non-profit agencies in the high desert area, which saves on transportation costs, resulting in more people fed in the high desert community.

17,000-20,000 pounds of food will be delivered by FARSB each month providing food for 5,600 people. As the regional food bank, FARSB provides food and resources for over 400 local non-profits in the Inland Empire, including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and more.

"We are hopeful that this high desert HUB will be the first of many, as our goal is to extend our reach throughout San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, particularly in those areas that are remote and hard to reach," said FARSB CEO, Stephanie Otero.

In the Inland Empire, more than 800,000 people struggle with hunger and may not know where they'll find their next meal. That number includes one in 4 children who are food insecure.

""High Desert Second Chance is the host Agency for the High Desert Food Collaborative. We are the very first Food Bank in the High Desert serving organizations from Wrightwood, Victorville, Hesperia, Adelanto, Oak Hills, Lucerne Valley, Phelan, Apple Valley and Barstow. We could not be more pleased with our partnership with FARSB. The food coming into our Food Bank today will help combat the growing food insecurity in our community. This makes a huge difference in the work our partners do as we utilize a network system to collaborate in answering the need of our food insecure neighbors and friends," expressed Christina Keneti, Vice President of High Desert Second Chance.

To learn more about FARSB and other ways you can get involved and support the Inland Empire community, please visit <u>www.FeedinglE.org</u>.

About Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino

Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino began in 1980 as Survive Food Bank in response to the increasing concern about the dual problems of hunger and food waste in the Inland Empire. Today, FARSB is the primary source of food for over 400 nonprofit organizations, distributing over 2.5 million pounds of food monthly to emergency food pantries, homeless shelters, soup kitchens, high-need elementary schools, halfway houses, senior centers, residential treatment centers, shelters for the abused, after school programs and group homes. More than 425,000 men, women and children each month rely on the food bank's distribution center to make ends meet. www.feedingie.org

Contact: