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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FARSB RECEIVES \$35,551 FROM ANTHEM FOUNDATION TO LAUNCH ‘FOOD IS MEDICINE’ PROGRAM

RIVERSIDE, CA (July 20, 2021) – Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB) announced today a \$35,551 grant from the Anthem Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Anthem, Inc., to launch the ‘Food is Medicine’ program. The grant will fund this initiative at the food bank as it partners with Riverside University Health System and IEHP to support health care staff with the implementation of processes to conduct universal food insecurity screenings and interventions.

The ‘Food is Medicine’ program, a Feeding America® initiative funded by the Anthem Foundation, will help connect approximately 1,340 people facing hunger in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties to food distribution programs that provide access to healthy food options every month. The program aims to screen between 16,080 patients this year with the goal of improving food security and health outcomes.

“Recent years has shown us the link between hunger and health,” said Stephanie Otero, Chief Executive Officer at FARSB. “The Food is Medicine effort will strengthen our efforts to feed those in need directly in healthcare settings, while collecting data to improve the overall health of our community,” said Otero.

While the IEHP Riverside and San Bernardino effort is already in motion, the new Riverside University Health System effort will officially launch in September 2021 across four sites, including Moreno Valley, Hemet, Perris, and Riverside.

People living in food-insecure households are more likely to experience poor health across their lifespan and are at increased risk for illness and poor chronic disease management.¹ The ‘Food is Medicine’ program seeks to ensure patients who screen positive for food insecurity during health care visits have access to resources to help them get the food they need.

FARSB, a member of the Feeding America network, is one of 14 food banks across the nation to receive this funding from the Anthem Foundation.

To learn more about FARSB visit www.FeedingIE.org.

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About Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB):

Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB) is leading the fight against hunger in the Inland Empire by providing food access, emergency relief, education, and advocacy to families in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. FARSB opened 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 to over 200 local nonprofit organizations, distributing over two million pounds of

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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. With the help of these charity partners, they make up the largest hunger relief organization in the Inland Empire, making food security a reality for over 1.2 million people every year. Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino proudly holds the 2021 Guide Star Platinum Seal of Transparency, the highest level of transparency achievable through Guide Star. For more information, visit www.FeedingIE.org.

About Feeding America

Feeding America® is the largest hunger-relief organization in the United States. Through a network of 200 food banks and 60,000 food pantries and meal programs, we provide meals to more than 40 million people each year. Feeding America also supports programs that prevent food waste and improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Visit <https://www.feedingamerica.org/>, find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

About Anthem Foundation

The Anthem Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Anthem, Inc. and through charitable contributions and programs, the Foundation promotes the inherent commitment of Anthem, Inc. to enhance the health and well-being of individuals and families in communities that Anthem, Inc. and its affiliated health plans serve. The Foundation focuses its funding on strategic initiatives that make up its Healthy Generations Program, a multi-generational initiative that targets: maternal health, diabetes prevention, cancer prevention, heart health and healthy, active lifestyles, behavioral health efforts and programs that benefit people with disabilities. The Foundation also coordinates the company's year-round Dollars for Dollars program which provides a 100 percent match of associates' donations, as well as its Volunteer Time Off and Dollars for Doers community service programs. To learn more about the Anthem Foundation, please visit <http://www.anthem.foundation> and its blog at <https://medium.com/anthemfoundation>.