



UTAH FOOD BANK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact

Ginette Bott, Chief Development Officer

O: 801.887.1283

C: 801.599.6004

E: ginetteb@utahfoodbank.org

Utah Food Bank to Host St. George Event to Benefit Southern Utahns Facing Hunger

September 12th race will be a family-friendly 5K with costumes encouraged!

SALT LAKE CITY – August 24, 2015 – Utah Food Bank is proud to host its first fundraiser in the St. George area on Saturday, September 12th. The H.A.M. It Up Against Hunger Race will be part of Utah Food Bank's statewide efforts to celebrate national Hunger Action Month™, which takes place during September. Utah Food Bank hopes the race will increase awareness about the issue of hunger in our state, especially in Southern Utah, and bring attention to the work they are doing through their Southern Distribution Center.

This family-friendly 5K will begin and end at Utah Food Bank Southern Distribution Center, which is located at 4416 S. River Road in St. George. The race begins at 8:00 a.m. on September 12th, and there is no registration at the event. Online registration closes on September 10th. Registration fees are just \$20 per person with a group discount of \$5 per person for groups of five or more. Packet pick-up and in-person registration will be on September 11th at the race location, with a \$5 price increase per person. Registration information and further details can be found by visiting Utah Food Bank's website at www.UtahFoodBank.org. Costumes are highly encouraged, and Utah Food Bank is looking forward to the creative ways that Southern Utahns will choose to *H.A.M. It Up Against Hunger*.

With over 36,000 Southern Utah residents unsure where their next meal will come from, 15,000 of whom are children, Utah Food Bank Southern Distribution Center is at the forefront of the fight against hunger in Southern Utah. Every sponsorship dollar and entry fee raised from this race will directly support Utah Food Bank's work in Southern Utah.

"We work hard to help Utahns across the state who are struggling to access enough food to thrive. The number of people in Southern Utah who are facing hunger are a key focus of our work, and the statistics here are worse than the national average in some counties," said Ginette Bott, Chief Development Officer for Utah Food Bank. "We hope that this race will show the Southern Utah community just how pervasive hunger is in the area, and how they can support us as we work to mitigate it."

About Utah Food Bank

Utah Food Bank provides food to a statewide network of 134 emergency food pantries and agencies. Last fiscal year, Utah Food Bank distributed 37.5 million pounds of food and goods, the equivalent of approximately 31.3 million meals, to families and individuals in need. Utah Food Bank also served close to 245,000 Kids Cafe meals, delivered almost 41,000 food boxes and filled more than 60,000 kids' backpacks to help sustain children facing hunger throughout the weekends. For more information about Utah Food Bank, visit www.utahfoodbank.org. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UtahFoodBank and Twitter at www.twitter.com/UtahFoodBank.

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