

Contact: Carolyn Solar, MBA (951) 359-4757 ext. 109 csolar@feedingamericaie.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Walmart and Sam's Club's "Fight Hunger. Spark Change." Campaign Raises \$125,914 for Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino

**RIVERSIDE, CA (September 24, 2020)** – Riverside and San Bernardino Counties helped to raise \$125,914 for local families in need through Walmart and Sam's Club's "Fight Hunger. Spark Change." campaign. In its seventh year, Walmart and Sam's Club engaged their customers and members, along with 22 suppliers to fight hunger during this challenging time and support local food banks across the country, which in the Inland Empire, helped to support Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino.

"The fight against hunger has never been more important than now. Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino (FARSB) is committed to serving our neighbors in need every day but we've seen more people in our community struggle with hunger as a result of the pandemic. That is why we are incredibly grateful for Walmart, Sam's Club, their associates, suppliers and everyone in our community who helped to support the 'Fight Hunger. Spark Change.' campaign," said Stephanie Otero, CEO at FARSB.

Each Walmart and Sam's Club was matched with at least one of the 200 local Feeding America® member food banks.

Funds generated through this campaign are going towards FARSB's emergency response efforts, which, from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic to now have provided nearly 10 million meals to neighbors facing chronic food-insecurity as well as those who were, and still are, facing food insecurity for the first time.

"This year's Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign is especially critical given the great need communities are facing," said Maria Zazycki, Senior Manager, Walmart.org. "We are incredibly proud of the way our customers, members, suppliers and associates stepped up to support local Feeding America member food banks that are working so hard."

Walmart and Sam's Club provide donations of both food and funds to Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino. Over the years, the company has provided additional grant opportunities, event sponsorships, store granted gifts, and valuable volunteer hours to further commit to serving the Inland Empire community.

Nearly \$18 million was raised this year through "Fight Hunger. Spark Change." Funds will benefit 200 Feeding America® member food banks nationwide. Additionally, Walmart kick-started the campaign with a \$3 million donation to Feeding America and member food banks. The Walmart Foundation also donated \$5 million to Feeding America to help support communities and individuals facing hunger during the COVID-19 outbreak.

To learn more about how you can join the fight to end hunger, visit www.FeedinglE.org.

## **About Philanthropy at Walmart**

Walmart.org represents the philanthropic efforts of Walmart and the Walmart Foundation. By leaning in where the business has unique strengths, Walmart.org works to tackle key social issues and collaborate with others to spark long-lasting systemic change. Walmart has stores in 27 countries, employs more than 2 million associates and does business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. Walmart.org is helping people live better by supporting programs that work to accelerate upward job mobility for frontline workers, address hunger and make healthier, more sustainably grown food a reality, and build strong communities where Walmart operates. To learn more, visit <a href="www.walmart.org">www.walmart.org</a> or connect on Twitter @Walmartorg.

#### **About Sam's Club**

Sam's Club®, a division of Walmart, Inc. (NYSE: WMT), is a leading membership warehouse club offering superior products, savings and services to millions of members in nearly 600 clubs in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Now in its 37th year, Sam's Club continues to redefine warehouse shopping with its highly curated assortment of high-quality fresh food and Member's Mark items, in addition to market leading technologies and services like Scan & Go, Club Pickup and home delivery service in select markets. To learn more about Sam's Club, visit the <a href="Sam's Club Newsroom">Sam's Club Newsroom</a>, shop at <a href="SamsClub.com">SamsClub.com</a>, and interact with Sam's Club on <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>.

#### **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 46 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. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit <a href="https://www.feedingamerica.org">www.feedingamerica.org</a>, find us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a> or follow us on <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>.

### About Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino

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 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. FARSB is one of 200 food banks across the nation affiliated with Feeding America, the national organization, however, FARSB raises their own funds through community initiatives in the Inland Empire. FARSB proudly holds the 2019 Guide Star Seal of Transparency, the highest level of transparency achievable through Guide Star and is rated 100/100 on Finance & Accountability through the Charity Navigator Encompass Rating System. For more information on how you can help, or to donate directly to FARSB, visit www.FeedinglE.org/donate. 100% of donations stay in the Inland Empire to help feed children and families in need.