

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Annual Letter Carriers Food Drive May 14, 2016

Nation's Largest One-day Effort to "Stamp Out Hunger"

The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will be conducting the nation's largest food drive to combat hunger on Saturday, May 14 in all 50 states and jurisdictions. Non-perishable food donations such as canned meat and fish, soup, cereals, pasta and rice, can be placed in a bag near the mailbox before the carrier delivers the mail.

As they deliver mail, the nation's 175,000 letter carriers will collect donations left by residents near their mail boxes. They will be joined by retired letter carriers, by family members and friends, and by countless volunteers to help collect the sacks of non-perishable food items that get left next to generous customers' mailboxes that morning. The food is taken back to the postal station, sorted, and then delivered to area food pantries, including; St. Joe's Food Program, and Salvation Army, where it is available for families in need.

Hunger affects about 49 million people around the country, including millions of children and senior citizens. Pantry shelves filled up through winter-holiday generosity often are bare by late spring. And, with most school meal programs suspended during summer months, millions of children must find alternate sources of nutrition.

Celebrating its 24th anniversary this year, the *Stamp Out Hunger* food drive is the largest single day food drive, having collected more than one billion pounds of food since its inception in 1993. The United States Postal Service, National Association of Letter Carriers, National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, AFL-CIO, Feeding America, United Way, Valassis and Valpak Direct Marketing Systems are all supporting this year's Stamp Out Hunger food drive.

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