



Hunger Free Summer Campaign to Provide A Happy – Not Hungry – Summer for Kids

*Program Underwriter & Match Donor Charter One Foundation
Joined by Ten Corporate and Community Partners to Double Campaign's Impact*

(June 9, 2014 – Detroit, MI) ... More than 300,000 children in southeast Michigan rely on free and reduced-fee meals during the school year. When school lets out, families struggle to make up these meals and many children go without the nourishment they need to enjoy a happy and healthy summer.

On **Thursday, June 12, 2014**, Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan (Gleaners) and the Charter One Foundation will launch the **Hunger Free Summer** campaign, providing 2 million meals to hungry children while school is out.

In addition to the underwriting support from the Charter One Foundation, donations will be matched dollar-for-dollar by: Ford Motor Company Fund, Andiamo Restaurant Group, David & Cherie A. Bazy, The Joshua (Jim) and Eunice Stone Foundation, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Grainger, American Specialty Oils, Nextep Systems and Rick Young Insurance. Additional support will be provided by Hiller's Markets. Every \$1 donation (normally providing three meals) will be matched to provide six nutritious meals for hungry children in southeast Michigan.

During the 11-week Hunger Free Summer campaign, ending September 1st, Gleaners will provide 2 million meals through their Summer Food Service and school-based mobile pantry programs, as well as their extensive network of over 550 partner soup kitchens, pantries and shelters.

"Combating childhood hunger becomes critically important during the summer months when children aren't receiving school lunches," said Karen Minghine, EVP, Retail Banking Director, Charter One. "Charter One is proud to partner with Gleaners for the eighth year to address child food insecurity issues and raise awareness about hunger in Southeast Michigan."

"One in four Michigan children struggles with hunger," says Gleaners President Gerry Brisson. "When summer vacation starts, these kids lose their most reliable source of nutrition. Hunger Free Summer helps make up those missing meals so all children can enjoy a happy, not hungry, summer."

Now through September 1, 2014, donations can be made:

- Online at www.HungerFreeSummer.org
- Calling 855-315-FOOD(3663)
- Texting "HFS" to 85944 (A \$10 donation will be added to the donor's cell phone bill. Message & data rates may apply.)
- Checks by mail: Gleaners, 2131 Beaufait, Detroit, MI 48207 (Please note "Hunger Free Summer" on memo line.)

Twitter @HungerFreeSummr and Facebook.com/HungerFreeSummer --- #HappyNotHungry

**Media Only: For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact:
Marcy Hayes/C&B Scene (Gleaners): 248.336.8360**

About Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan

For more than 37 years, Gleaners Community Food Bank has been "feeding hungry people and nourishing our communities." Last year, Gleaners distributed more than 41 million pounds of emergency food to over 550 partner schools, soup kitchens, shelters and pantries in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties. Of every dollar donated, Gleaners uses 94 cents for food and food programs. One dollar provides three meals for a hungry neighbor. Learn more at www.gcfb.org.

About the Charter One Foundation

Charter One Foundation is a subsidiary of the Citizens Charitable Foundation, which is a charitable contributions vehicle of RBS Citizens Financial Group, Inc., RBS Citizens, N.A. and Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania. The foundation's support is focused on human services, affordable housing and economic development. For more information, visit charterone.com.