



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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October is declared Michigan Harvest Gathering Month!

This House Resolution helps to raise awareness and resources to alleviate hunger in Michigan

The Food Bank Council of Michigan is pleased to announce that October 2013 has been declared Harvest Gathering Month in the state of Michigan. House Resolution 192 was adopted by the House of Representatives on October 15th, 2013. By bringing state-wide attention to the Michigan Harvest Gathering, the Food Bank Council of Michigan hopes to raise awareness and resources to help feed those who struggle with hunger.

“By adopting the resolution to declare October as Michigan Harvest Gathering Month, the State of Michigan has again proven a commitment to addressing hunger,” said Kareemah El-Amin of the Food Bank Council of Michigan. “We are very grateful to State Representative Andy Schor and the Families, Children and Seniors Committee for taking up this important matter.”

“It is my hope that along with the work of the Food Bank Council of Michigan, HR 192 will help to strengthen the capacity of our state’s emergency food response efforts and raise awareness about the many reasons that citizens in our communities turn to emergency relief. It is an honor to play a part in the Michigan Harvest Gathering efforts,” said State Representative Andy Schor.

Since its inception in 1991, the Michigan Harvest Gathering has raised over \$8.6 Million dollars and over 8.7 Million pounds of food, significantly benefitting the resources of Michigan food banks. This annual program was conceived by Attorney General Bill Schuette and his wife Cynthia Schuette 22 years ago and has been administered by the Food Bank Council of Michigan each year since. In 2013, the goal of the MHG is to raise \$500,000 and 350,000 pounds of food. To contribute directly and learn more about the Michigan Harvest Gathering Campaign, please go to www.feedmichigan.org. Michigan residents are also welcome to drop off nonperishable food items at Secretary of State branch offices.

Currently, 23.7% of Michigan’s children face hunger, living without a reliable source of healthy food. “The funds and food accrued through the Michigan Harvest Gathering program translates into millions of meals that are directly coordinated through our member food banks,” said Kareemah El-Amin. “This food includes fresh, Michigan grown fruits and vegetables in addition to more shelf stable items, vital to the nutrition of Michigan children.”

For more information about participating in the 2013 Michigan Harvest Gathering, contact Jenelle Jagmin at the Food Bank Council of Michigan at (517) 485-1202 or www.fbcmich.org. Support the Michigan Harvest Gathering today at www.feedmichigan.org.

Food Bank Council of Michigan: *Founded in 1984, the Food Bank Council of Michigan provides statewide leadership to food banks in their efforts to alleviate hunger through the distribution of surplus food to those in need. We work with our six regional food banks and their 3,278 hunger relief agencies, private companies, farmers, state and federal officials and other allies to make sure that our friends and neighbors do not go without food – the most basic of necessities.*

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