

# MEDIA ADVISORY

November 18, 2008

1201 Sams Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70123  
Contact: Candace Washington  
Office: 504.729.2821  
Cell: 504.621.4492  
cwashington@secondharvest.org



SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF  
GREATER NEW ORLEANS AND ACADIANA



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## Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana receives funding from State of Louisiana during \$5 million check presentation

**NEW ORLEANS, LA** – On Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, a check will be presented to Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana and the members of the Louisiana Food Bank Association by Michael G. Strain, Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry. The presentation will take place at Second Harvest's main warehouse located at 1201 Sams Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70123. Also attending the presentation will be Second Harvest member agencies and clients who will be available for media interviews and comments.

### WHEN:

Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008, 2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

### WHERE:

Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana  
1201 Sams Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70123

### WHY:

Skyrocketing fuel and food costs are presenting challenges to hard-working Louisianans and their families. Coupled with the ravaging storms of this past hurricane season, the state's food banks have found it difficult to meet the increased demand for their services.

In 2007, for the first time ever, Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana and the Louisiana Food Bank Association (LFBA) approached the state legislature for funding to combat the urgent hunger crisis across Louisiana. That year, against all expectations, LFBA received \$5 million and purchased over 9.8 million pounds of food from Louisiana farmers, fishermen, vendors and wholesalers to feed hungry individuals in all 64 parishes.

This year, there were new challenges to face in the pursuit of state funding: informing new lawmakers of the magnitude of the need for food assistance in every corner of the state; updating new committee chairpersons and key committee members on the successes achieved because of last year's funding thanks to joint efforts by the LFBA and state government; and comprehensive documentation of both the impact of dollars received, and the new strains placed on the system by current troubled economic times for working families.

The result of these efforts was a continuation of funding for the LFBA, a total of \$5 million for the new fiscal year.

### For whom:

The funds will be used to help offset unmet needs in serving the state's hungry by allowing the five regional food banks to purchase nutritious Louisiana food from Louisiana farmers, fishermen and distributors.

### Website:

[www.no-hunger.org](http://www.no-hunger.org)

**Second Harvest and LFBA representatives and agencies will be on-hand for media interviews and comments.**