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MEDIA EVENT ADVISORY

The Salvation Army Washington County HOPE Center launches Spring Food Initiative, *Hope in Action*, in May to combat hunger

What: Washington County HOPE Center Spring Food Initiative will support the work of the center's food pantry as they combat hunger and poverty in Washington County. National statistics show that one in five children live in poverty, more than double the number in 2021.* The goal of the Spring Food Initiative is to collect 10,000 pounds of food and provide more than 8,350 meals.

Where: Collection sites across Washington County include eight Les Schwab Tire Centers, three Royal Moore Auto Centers, three Walmart Neighborhood Markets, three Walmart Super Centers, and the WCHC. Distribution from the Washington County HOPE Center pantry and by The Salvation Army's Washington County Mobile Outreach Ministry.

When: May 1 – May 31, 2024

How: Food boxes with *Hope in Action* signage that leads to digital giving opportunities will be distributed across designated sites in Washington County. Boxes will be delivered the week before May 1 and picked up the week after May 31. The food will be distributed from the Washington County HOPE Center's food pantry and the Washington County Mobile Outreach Ministry.

Quote from Salvation Army: "The Washington County HOPE Center Spring Food Drive addresses the rising occurrence of food insecurity in our neighborhoods," said Adam Harvey, Program Director at Washington County HOPE Center. "This initiative, along with our program partners, strives to combat the impact of rapid inflation throughout the county. It's part of a larger investment of The Salvation Army's Washington County HOPE Center's growing food pantry."

**USDA's Household Food Security Report for 2023*

About The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army annually helps 30 million Americans overcome poverty, addiction, and economic hardships through a range of social services. By providing food for the hungry, emergency relief for disaster survivors, rehabilitation for those suffering from drug and alcohol abuse, and clothing and shelter for people in need, The Salvation Army is doing the most good at 7,600 centers of operation around the country. In the first-ever listing of "America's Favorite Charities" by The Chronicle of Philanthropy, The Salvation Army ranked as the country's largest privately funded, direct-service nonprofit. For more information, please call (503) 640-4311 or visit <https://salarmy.us/hopeinaction>. Follow us on Twitter: @salarmycascade and #DoingTheMostGood; Instagram: @salarmypdx; YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeczfwlk60JFgGexAISxXg> (@salarmpdx); and LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/salarmycascade/> (@salarmycascade).

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