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**HOUSTON FOOD BANK RECEIVES MAJOR DONATION FROM CHASE
TO HELP THE REGION'S HUNGRY**

Gift Allows Expansion of Vital Retail Pick-up Program

HOUSTON – July 14... As hunger continues to rise in Greater Houston and the 18 southeast Texas counties served by the Houston Food Bank, a donation of three state-of-the-art refrigerated trucks received today from Chase will allow the non-profit organization to expand its crucial retail pick-up program.

“The Houston Food Bank and our member agencies are working harder than ever to provide as much food as possible for hungry people,” says Brian Greene, president/CEO of the Houston Food Bank. “As jobs are lost due to recession, individuals and families who have never before needed help are becoming ‘the new poor’ and turning to food pantries and other sources for sustenance. To keep up with demand, we continue to develop new sources of food, such as our Retail Pick-up Program.”

The Retail Pick-Up Program is a collaboration between the Houston Food Bank and local grocers who donate short-dated products such as meat, baked goods and produce for pick-up and quick delivery to member agencies. With its current fleet of trucks, the program is providing the hungry with more than 500,000 pounds of food each month that might otherwise go to waste.

“With the new refrigerated trucks donated by Chase, we can expand our program to pick up approximately 20% more food from retail stores to help our neighbors in need.”

The Houston Food Bank feeds 137,000 individuals each week through a network of charities. That is a 70 percent increase from 2006. Sadly, nearly half are children under the age of 18.

“Far too many Houstonians live and work without knowing if they can feed their families tomorrow,” said Gina Luna, chief executive of Middle Market Banking for Chase in Houston. “Chase is proud to provide the Houston Food Bank with these state-of-the-art trucks to help them drive out hunger in our communities.”

At a ceremony held at the Houston Food Bank’s headquarters (3811 Eastex Freeway, Houston, 77026) on Wednesday, July 14, Luna officially handed over the keys to Greene. Rodney Redford, executive director of North Channel Assistance Ministries – a member agency of the Houston Food Bank – spoke to the great need his community and how the trucks will bring much-needed food, and employee volunteers from Chase were on-site, packing boxes of food for delivery to families.

Chase announced its donation as part of a \$5 million national grant to Feeding America and its nationwide network of food banks. Houston Food Bank is a member of the Feeding America network.

Chase donates trucks to Houston Food Bank/2

The national donation will support hunger-fighting initiatives, supplying 34 trucks to 20 food banks in communities hit hard by the recession. The trucks' destinations include Feeding America network food banks in 19 cities and local communities nationwide and is the largest ever one time corporate donation to Feeding America. During the past decade, Chase has provided nearly \$14 million in support to hunger-related programs nationwide.

In additional support for the Houston Food Bank, Chase recently arranged \$50 million of New Markets Tax Credit financing for the non-profit's purchase and renovation of the former Sysco warehouse, which will become the new Houston Food Bank headquarters. The 298,000 square-foot facility will greatly increase the Houston Food Bank's capacity to fight hunger in Houston. The tax credit was arranged with the help of the Community Reinvestment Fund, Local Initiatives Support Corporation and National Development Council.

"Hunger is not just an issue for the individuals that are experiencing it firsthand, but for the community – and the nation – as a whole," says Greene. "It is comforting to know that we have committed allies such as Chase in this important fight against hunger."

About Chase

Chase has 205 branches and 6,750 employees in the Houston area. The company's philanthropic goal is simple - be the catalyst to meaningful, positive, and sustainable change. In 2009, JPMorgan Chase gave more than \$100 million through grants and sponsorships to thousands of not-for-profit organizations around the world. More information about Chase is available at www.chase.com.

About the Houston Food Bank

The Houston Food Bank is the largest source of food for hunger relief charities in 18 southeast Texas counties. A network of more than 400 food pantries, soup kitchens, senior centers and other agencies, feeding a total of 137,000 people each week, provides more than 60 million pounds of food and prepared meals annually. Fresh produce, meat and nonperishables are distributed from Herzstein Center, a 73,000 square-foot warehouse, and hot meals are prepared and distributed from Keegan Center, a 15,000 square-foot industrial kitchen. In 2011, the Food Bank's warehouse operations will be moved to a much larger facility near the East Freeway and East Loop. Additional community services range from nutrition education to assistance with food stamp applications and hands-on job training. Red Barrels offer a convenient way for grocery shoppers to donate nonperishables for their neighbors in need. The Houston Food Bank, founded in 1982, is a certified member of Feeding America, the nation's food bank network. The organization plans to grow to an annual distribution of 120 million pounds of food by 2018. Visit HoustonFoodBank.org for more information.

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For more information on the Houston Food Bank and its programs, visit HoustonFoodBank.org.