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Zucker Family Helps Fight Hunger in the Lowcountry

Anita Zucker donates \$500,000 towards Lowcountry Food Bank Growing Forward Capital Campaign

CHARLESTON, S.C., November 12, 2008 – The Lowcountry Food Bank announced today that Anita Zucker and the Zucker Family donated \$500,000 to their Growing Forward Capital Campaign. “The Lowcountry Food Bank means so much to all the people served daily,” stated Anita Zucker of the Zucker Family. “My husband, Jerry, left us with a legacy, a legacy we call ‘Tikkun Olam,’ meaning repairing the world. One of the ways we can repair the world is to help the people that don’t have food.”

The Zucker family’s \$500,000 donation to the Growing Forward Capital Campaign will go directly towards the facility’s Production Kitchen. One of the main functions of the kitchen will be to serve as a central location for the preparation and distribution of meals for the Kids Cafe program, an afterschool feeding program providing hot and nutritious meals to more than 1,500 children. “During a time of uncertainty, we are very fortunate to have the Zucker Family’s trust and friendship in our fight to end childhood hunger. One day we will look back at the Zucker Family’s support and see that is was a monumental moment in our ability to provide hope, healing and health to all needy children in our community,” comments Lowcountry Food Bank Executive Director D. Jermaine Husser.

After completing Phase I of the campaign by raising \$2.5 million, the Lowcountry Food Bank was able to acquire its new 60,000 square foot facility, “The Paul Hulse Community Food and Nutrition Center,” on Azalea Drive in North Charleston. After extensive renovations that are almost complete, Lowcountry Food Bank staff expects to be operating out of the new facility by the end of November. At the new facility the organization will continue striving to serve the 55,000 children that go hungry in coastal South Carolina each day along with the 14 percent of Lowcountry residents who are at risk of going hungry in coastal South Carolina each day.

“This is a really exciting time for the Lowcountry Food Bank,” shared Shawn Jenkins, chairman of the Growing Forward Capital Campaign and president and CEO of Benefitfocus. “The new facility will give us expanded reach and capabilities to serve those in need in the ten coastal counties. And with this amazing donation, we are well over half-way to reaching our goal.”

Zucker comes from a family background that understands first-hand the needs of people. “My parents were holocaust survivors,” Zucker reflected. “Everyday they had to search for morsels of food. So [contributing to] this means so much and helps me see how we can make in impact on the lives of others. After the Zucker Family’s gift, the Growing Forward Capital Campaign has now raised \$4.2 million towards the overall 5 million dollar goal.

About The Lowcountry Food Bank

The Lowcountry Food Bank is a member of Feeding America-- the largest provider of emergency food distribution in the United States. The Lowcountry Food Bank is a clearinghouse for donated food products that are distributed to a network of more than 320 member agencies including soup kitchens, homeless shelters and emergency food pantries. The Lowcountry Food Bank’s mission is to feed the hungry of the ten coastal counties of South Carolina by soliciting and distributing healthy food and grocery products to nonprofit agencies serving the poor and by educating the public about the problems of and solutions to domestic hunger.

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