



For more information please contact:
Cory Berkenes, Executive Director
(515) 288-3234
cberkenes@iowafba.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Join Us in Hunger Action Month as We Celebrate \$34,751 Donation to Feed Iowa Children

September 25 Open House will recognize Farm Credit Services of America donation of one meal for each of Iowa's 139,000 food-insecure children

Nearly 13% of Iowans are food insecure, or lack adequate access to enough food to lead a healthy lifestyle. Those 389,250 individuals each miss the equivalent of 172 meals each year. Approximately 139,000 of those individuals are children, or 19.3% of Iowa's child population.

Farm Credit Services of America has announced its commitment of \$34,751 to fight childhood hunger in Iowa. The donation will be recognized at a September 25 Hunger Action Month Open House hosted by the Iowa Food Bank Association.

"Nearly 139,000 Iowa children do not know where their next meal will come from. With one dollar providing four meals, we're giving \$34,751 to guarantee at least one meal for each of those children," said Jim Knuth, senior vice president lending services, Farm Credit Services of America, Perry, IA. "It is an honor to work with the Iowa Food Bank Association, who shares our mission of providing for the food insecure."

Insufficient nutrition can have devastating effects on child development, focus, immunity and overall health. The effects of hunger ripple through the community - yielding added economic expenses, setbacks in the educational system and decreased productivity.

Hunger Action Month is a nationwide initiative designed to mobilize the public to take action on issues like childhood hunger. The September 25 Hunger Action Month Open House will be held from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. at Iowa Food Bank Association's office, 1111 9th Street, Suite 260 in Des Moines. The Open House will honor those who have joined the effort to fight hunger in the state and will emphasize the importance of continuing the fight throughout the year. A short program will be held at 8:30 a.m. and refreshments will be provided.

"What a great opportunity to celebrate anti-hunger action during the past month," said Cory Berkenes, Executive Director of Iowa Food Bank Association. "The commitment by Farm Credit Services of America is an amazing display of generosity and caring – a commitment that will undoubtedly make a great impact in the food banks' efforts to tackle childhood hunger."

####

About Iowa Food Bank Association

The Iowa Food Bank Association (IFBA) is a collaboration of the eight Feeding America food banks that serve all of Iowa's 99 counties. Together, the food banks serve over 1,000 non-profit organizations serving individuals in need. These organizations include food pantries, emergency meal sites, congregate meal sites, emergency shelters, and other sites that provide food to clients. The mission of IFBA is to coordinate efforts to alleviate hunger by supporting the Feeding America food banks that serve the state. Collaborative efforts will allow the food banks to become more efficient and effective in serving hungry Iowans.

About Farm Credit Services of America

Farm Credit Services of America is a customer-owned financial cooperative proud to finance the growth of rural America, including the special needs of young and beginning producers. With more than \$23.3 billion in assets and \$4.2 billion in members' equity, FCSAmerica is one of the region's leading providers of credit and insurance services to farmers, ranchers, agribusiness and rural residents in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. Learn more at fcsamerica.com.