



www.foodbankst.org

945 County Route 64 Elmira NY 14903-9701  
Phone: 607.796.6061 Fax: 607.796.6028

A Regional Agency of  
Catholic Charities

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**TO:** News Editors  
**DATE:** June 16, 2009  
**CONTACT:** Melissa Smith, Community & Public Relations Manager  
Food Bank of the Southern Tier  
**CONTACT INFO:** (607) 796-6061 x23  
mlsmith@feedingamerica.org  
**RE:** *The Ithaca Rotary Club Provides Grant to Assist with Funding for the Food Bank of the Southern Tier's Mobile Food Pantry in Tompkins County*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Southern Tier, NY** – The Food Bank of the Southern Tier announces that a grant in the amount of \$3,000 was received from the Ithaca Rotary Club. These funds will be used to support the Mobile Food Pantry in Tompkins County during 2009.

“The Ithaca Rotary Club is honored to support the work of the Food Bank of the Southern Tier in its efforts to deliver food through the Mobile Food Bank to the rural population of Tompkins County. In these difficult economic times, food security concerns are a high priority for the service club, whose 200 members participate in fundraising events to raise money, which is then donated to non-profit organizations serving Tompkins County,” said Joanne Lamoureux, Chairperson of the Community Grants Committee. “The club has supported the Food Bank's Backpack Program in previous years, and continues to feel that the work of the Food Bank is crucial to the health and well being of their clients. We are proud to participate through this measure of support,” added Lamoureux.

Introduced in July 2007, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier's Mobile Food Pantry Program consists of two converted 35-foot beverage trucks which deliver fresh produce, dairy products, and other food and grocery products directly to distribution sites where people need food. The Mobile Food Pantry can transport up to 15,000 pounds of food with a typical mobile pantry distribution providing to 200 to 250 families in need. In 2008, the Mobile Food Pantry trucks distributed 158,923 pounds of food in Tompkins County, serving 2,927 households, 2,046 children, 3,731 adults, and 1,589 seniors.

To learn more about the Food Bank of the Southern Tier and how you can support local hunger-relief efforts, visit the Food Bank's website at [www.foodbankst.org](http://www.foodbankst.org) or call 607-796-6061.

About the Food Bank

In operation since 1981, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier distributes food and food-related products to people in need through a network of more than 180 hunger-relief agencies including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other non-profit organizations. The Food Bank also has a number of programs that fight hunger including the Backpack Program™ and Mobile Food Pantry. Located in Elmira, NY it is a regional agency of Catholic Charities and an affiliate of Feeding America serving the six counties of Broome, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga and Tompkins.

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