



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: September 22, 2009
CONTACT: Melissa Smith, Community & Public Relations Manager
Food Bank of the Southern Tier
CONTACT INFO: (607) 796-6061 x23
mlsmith@feedingamerica.org
RE: **Local Legislators Volunteer at Food Bank in Support of Hunger Action Month**

Interview & Photo Opportunity

What: Senator George Winner and Assemblyman Tom O'Mara Volunteer at Food Bank
When: Wednesday, September 23rd from 2:30 - 3:30 PM
Where: Food Bank of the Southern Tier, 945 County Route 64, Elmira, NY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Southern Tier, NY – September is Hunger Action Month! In response to Hunger Action Month, millions of Americans throughout September are giving a little time and voice to public policy initiatives, specifically the Child Nutrition Reauthorization. The Food Bank of the Southern Tier is welcoming local legislators who are volunteering their time to fight child hunger on **Wednesday, September 23rd from 2:30 - 3:30 PM** at the Food Bank, 945 County Rt. 64, Elmira, NY 14903.

Senator George Winner and Assemblyman Tom O'Mara are among the elected officials who will be volunteering to repackage bulk food items for the Food Bank's Backpack Program™. The Food Bank's Backpack Program™ provides healthy, kid-friendly, and easy to prepare foods to children at risk of hunger over weekend and holiday breaks when children do not have access to free or reduced price school meal programs. During the 2008/2009 school year, the Food Bank's Backpack Program™ served 18 school districts across the Southern Tier, reaching over 1,200 children per week.

"It's terrific to see our local legislators supporting the Food Bank's hunger-relief efforts by volunteering their time. Everyone can make a difference in the fight against hunger and volunteers help make our work possible." said Natasha Thompson, Food Bank President & CEO.

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 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 a member of Feeding America. The Food Bank serves the six counties of Broome, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga and Tompkins.

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