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TO: News Editors
DATE: June 17, 2011
CONTACT: Missy Smith, Community & Public Relations Manager, Food Bank of the Southern Tier
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RE: *MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger Provides Donation to the Food Bank of the Southern Tier*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Elmira, NY – The Food Bank of the Southern Tier announces that a grant award in the amount of \$7,000 was received from MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger. This donation will support the Food Bank’s hunger relief efforts.

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger is a leading national nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing and alleviating hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds. Founded in 1985, MAZON, which means “food” or “sustenance” in Hebrew, was the first national organization to rally the American Jewish community around the issue of hunger, and remains the only national Jewish organization dedicated to exclusively that same cause. MAZON practices and promotes a multi-faceted approach to hunger relief, recognizing the importance of responding to hungry peoples’ immediate need for nutritious food while also working to develop and advance long-term solutions.

“The Food Bank has had the good fortune of receiving grant funding from MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger since 2002,” said Natasha Thompson, Food Bank of the Southern Tier President & CEO. “Their consistent support of our work is very much appreciated and goes a long way in our ability to provide hunger-relief services in the Southern Tier,” added Thompson.

Each week, over 11,000 individuals visit a hunger-relief member agency served by the Food Bank of the Southern Tier. In 2010, the Food Bank distributed nearly 7 million pounds of food to neighbors in need across the six Southern Tier counties of Broome, Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, and Tompkins. Support from organizations like MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger help make this possible.

To learn more about how you can make a difference in the fight against hunger, 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 160 hunger-relief member agencies including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other non-profit organizations. The Food Bank also has a number of direct service programs that fight hunger including the BackPack Program™ and Mobile Food Pantry. Located in Elmira, NY, the Food Bank 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.

