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For Immediate Release

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Kroger “Brings Hope to the Table”

Shared Harvest Foodbank in Fairfield has received a sizeable gift from the Kroger Company today as part of the company’s summer campaign called “Bringing Hope to the Table”.

Kroger Advertising Manager Rachel Betzler presented Shared Harvest Foodbank Executive Director Tina Osso with a check for \$30,000 to assist with the ~~purchase~~ **distribution** of food for the foodbank’s network of more than 100 food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters,

“This gift from Kroger comes just at the right time, as our network of emergency food pantries struggle to meet the increased needs of families,” said Tina Osso, Executive Director of Shared Harvest Foodbank.

“Many families have fallen victim to job losses, shortened work hours or pay cuts. Now they face back-to-school expenses for their children on an already tight budget, which may force them to turn to pantries for food.”

Shared Harvest has now received cash donations totaling \$140,000 in the four years that Kroger has run summer campaign. Bringing Hope to the Table involves an annual partnership between Kroger and its vendors, who offer consumers a chance to fight hunger by purchasing yellow-tagged sale items during a two-week period. This year, the campaign ran from _____ to _____. *(Kroger is supposed to furnish me this today)*

“Kroger continues to focus attention on ending hunger in America”, said Geoff Covert, President of the Cincinnati/Dayton Marketing Division. “We deeply believe it is our responsibility, not only as a corporation, but as concerned individuals, to ensure that no man, woman, or child goes to bed hungry at night. Bringing Hope to the Table gives our customers, associates, and vendors the chance to help families right in their own neighborhoods.”

Kroger and its family of stores have helped lead the fight against hunger in the United States for more than 25 years. In addition to the Bringing Hope campaign, Kroger stores also

assist Shared Harvest and other foodbanks with “Check Out Hunger” in November and December – a program where consumers can make a donation to their local foodbank as they pass through the checkout line. Kroger also worked with Shared Harvest in 2005 to launch the Retail Pickup Program, which rescues perishable food items that previously were destined for landfills.