

For immediate release: Monday, April 13, 2009

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Shared Harvest receives spring egg donation

For the second consecutive year, Shared Harvest Foodbank has a bountiful supply of Ohio eggs to share with its network of food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters this spring.

Cal-Maine Farms of Rossburg, Ohio and Hillandale Farms/Ohio Fresh Eggs of Akron and Croton are helping to fill the tables of families in need in Butler, Warren, Preble, Miami and Darke Counties. The two farms combined to donate more than 54,000 eggs with a retail value of more than \$5,000.

“Our food pantries are always looking for high-protein items, and eggs are a staple among families in need because they are so versatile,” said Shared Harvest Foodbank Executive Director Tina Osso. “With the lines of folks in need growing each day, this donation from Hillandale and Cal-Maine comes at the perfect time.”

Cal-Maine and Hillandale are among nine Ohio egg producers donating more than one million eggs to food banks throughout the Buckeye state as one of several joint ventures between the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks and the Ohio Poultry Association.

“Having wholesome, safe food to put on the dinner table should be an expectation, not a luxury, for Ohio’s families,” said John Glessner of Hillandale Farms/Ohio Fresh Eggs.

Challenging economic times have created a crisis in the hunger relief network with requests for assistance increasing because of rising unemployment rates, high prices for utilities, health care and food, as well as stagnant wages.

“We are grateful that Ohio’s egg farmers recognize the need for eggs at a time when Ohio foodbanks are struggling to keep food on their shelves,” said Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, Executive Director of the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks.

The Ohio egg donations compliments a national initiative conducted by the United Egg Producers and Feeding America (formerly Second Harvest) that will provide more than 12-million eggs to foodbanks across the country.

Other Ohio egg producers participating in the statewide donation include Weaver Brothers, Inc. of Versailles; Fort Recovery Equity of Fort Recovery; Hemmelgarn & Sons, Inc. of Coldwater; Rindler Poultry of Saint Henry; Sauder Eggs of Winesburg; Stoller Farms of Van Wert; and Hertzfeld Poultry Farms of Grand Rapids.