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## **“Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation” Food Drive Begins in Broward County**

Many of us take summer vacations. When we return from our vacations we usually come home to stacks of mail, piles of laundry and empty cupboards. Imagine if you came home to an empty cupboard everyday.

- **Broward County food pantries serve 100% more clients than they did 2 years ago.**
- **44% of Broward County public school students qualify for free and reduced lunch.**
- **65% of Broward County parents cannot afford to feed their children a balanced meal.**
- **1 of 6 Broward County residents is hungry.**

*Source: Broward County Food Security Survey; June 2007*

On Monday, August 6, Broward County will kick-off the “Hunger Doesn’t Take a Vacation” Food Drive. County employees and residents will have the opportunity to help replenish food banks serving our local community.

Broward County Commissioner Sue Gunzburger requested the summer food drive. "Food collections are popular around holidays such as Thanksgiving, but people are hungry year-round and our food banks suffer during the summer months," said Commissioner Gunzburger. "That's why we have named this the 'Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation' food drive."

The Broward County Human Services Department will be setting up collection boxes in County buildings where employees and members of the community can drop off their donations. Donations will be accepted at the following locations:

- **Governmental Center:** Main Lobby and 3rd Floor Parking Garage Walkover
- **Government Center West:** One N. University Dr., Plantation
- **North Regional Courthouse:** 1600 W. Hillsboro Blvd., Deerfield Beach

- **South Regional Courthouse:** 3550 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood
- **West Regional Courthouse:** 100 N. Pine Island Rd., Plantation
- **Main Courthouse:** 201 S.E. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Fort Lauderdale
- **37 Broward County Library Branches:** Visit [www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library) for branch locations
- **Family Success Center - North Regional:** 2011 N.W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Pompano Beach
- **Northwest Coral Springs Regional Family Success Center:** 10077 N.W. 29<sup>th</sup> St., Coral Springs
- **Family Success Center - South Regional:** 4733 S.W. 18<sup>th</sup> St., Hollywood
- **Family Success Center - Central Regional:** 3500 North S.R. 7, Rm. 351, Lauderdale Lakes
- **Homeless Services Section:** 4200 N.W. 16<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 502, Lauderhill
- **Refugee Services:** 2995 N. Dixie Hwy., Fort Lauderdale

“There are a number of individuals and families in Broward County who go without food as they struggle to make ends meet,” said Marlene Wilson, Director of the Broward County Human Services Division. “With collection boxes available at so many convenient locations, it’s easy for the public and our employees to donate. We know people are generous and want to help.”

The food drive will end on August 30 and on September 6, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Gunzburger will deliver the food to the Cooperative Feeding Program (1 NW 33rd Terrace, Fort Lauderdale) where it will be weighed before being distributed to food banks countywide.

The following items are in especially high demand:

- Canned Meats, Vegetables and Fruit
- Canned Fish (Tuna)
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly or Jam
- Soups, canned or instant
- Pasta
- Rice
- Cereal, hot and cold
- Powdered or Shelf Milk
- Dry Beans
- Baby Formula
- Baby Food or Cereal
- Diapers and Wipes

In the past several years the Cooperative Feeding Program has provided millions of meals to Broward County residents. The program also helps families access services that can help them through financially difficult times.

For more information, please contact Elayne Baron, Human Services Department, 954-357-6385 or email [ebaron@broward.org](mailto:ebaron@broward.org).

For information on the Cooperative Feeding Program please visit [www.feedingbroward.org](http://www.feedingbroward.org).

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