Feeding San Diego Receives $52,000 Grant from Walmart Foundation to Support SNAP Education and Outreach

Donation will help San Diegans in need access food

San Diego, CA – July 24, 2017 – Feeding San Diego (FSD), the leading hunger-relief organization in San Diego County, today announced a $52,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation to help fight hunger in San Diego through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) education and outreach. SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) is the largest federal assistance program working to fight hunger in America. More than 70% of SNAP benefits go to households with children. Yet, 17 percent of Americans eligible for SNAP currently do not receive this benefit. Only 41 percent of eligible seniors are enrolled.

With this grant, Feeding San Diego will work to increase access to SNAP (known as CalFresh in California) among eligible households, with particular emphasis on reaching seniors, families with children, and other vulnerable populations. This grant will allow the FSD CalFresh Outreach team to grow clients’ access to SNAP benefits through community outreach from CalFresh specialists, interns, summer associates and partner agencies.

“No one should worry about where they will find their next meal. Every day, Feeding San Diego helps to provide food to the 1 in 8 people who struggle with hunger in San Diego,” said Vince Hall, CEO of Feeding San Diego. “But we can’t end hunger alone. Programs like SNAP help to fill a critical gap for people in need.”

SNAP provides more than nutrition assistance; it helps improve families’ overall well-being. With lower grocery bills, people are better able to afford other basic necessities—rent or mortgages, medical expenses, utilities and transportation. According to the USDA’s Economic Research Service Report, SNAP is critical to moving families into long-term food security.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation provide donations of both food and funds to the Feeding America nationwide network of 200 food banks. In San Diego, the Walmart Foundation has provided a number of infrastructure grants, most recently in 2016, providing refrigeration, shelving, carts, bins and other tools to increase the distribution of perishable food. Additionally, in 2016, Walmart donated more than 22 million pounds of food, the equivalent of more than 18 million meals, to fight hunger in San Diego.

For more information about what Feeding San Diego is doing to fight hunger, visit feedingsandiego.org.

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ABOUT FEEDING SAN DIEGO
Established in 2007, Feeding San Diego (FSD) is the leading hunger-relief organization in the county, providing 21.2 million meals within the last year, and the only Feeding America affiliate in the region. FSD provides food and resources to a network of more than 225 distribution partners serving 63,000 children, families and seniors each week. Focused on healthy food, education and advocacy, FSD is building a hunger-free and healthy San Diego through innovative programs and collaborative partnerships. To learn more about Feeding San Diego and its hunger-relief initiatives, visit feedingsandiego.org.