



## **HAWAII FOODBANK IN URGENT NEED OF FOOD AND MONETARY DONATIONS**

*Oahu Warehouse Currently Has Less Than 10-Days-Worth of Food in Stock*

HONOLULU (August 7, 2018) – In an effort to continue providing food assistance to more than 287,000 hungry islanders, Hawaii Foodbank is asking community members for emergency food and monetary donations.

Hawaii Foodbank aims to collect one million pounds of food each month but a decrease in summer donations, providing emergency relief following two natural disasters and an approaching hurricane have left its Oahu warehouse shelves bare with less than 10-days worth of food in stock.

“Hawaii Foodbank has been responding aggressively to the daily needs of hungry island residents while also providing emergency assistance for Kauai and Hawaii Island residents,” said Ron Mizutani, President and CEO of Hawaii Foodbank. “With about 20 percent of Oahu’s population suffering from food insecurity and relying on our services to provide food assistance in times of crisis, we are in dire need of food as our warehouse supplies are dwindling rapidly.”

In anticipation of the current hurricane season and threats surrounding Hurricane Hector, Hawaii Foodbank is in need of emergency provisions in order to effectively prepare and respond in the event of another natural disaster.

“We distribute about a million pounds of food each month through our member agencies and other nonprofit groups serving those in need and now with Hector brewing in the Pacific, we’re very concerned,” says Mizutani. “The lull in summer donations is starting to reveal itself in our warehouse. Ideally, we’d like to see a food stockpile of 20 days. We humbly ask the community to give what they can.”

Hawaii Foodbank is accepting monetary donations and non-perishable food items. Donations of canned proteins, canned meals, canned vegetables, canned fruits and rice are in high demand and residents are encouraged to drop their donations at Hawaii Foodbank as soon as possible.

For more information on Hawaii Foodbank or to make a donation, please call (808) 954-7869 or visit [www.hawaiifoodbank.org](http://www.hawaiifoodbank.org).

###

**About the Hawaii Foodbank**

The Hawaii Foodbank, in partnership with the food industry and community, serves as a link between charities and those in need of food assistance including the elderly, families, children and those facing financial crises each week. Last year, the Hawaii Foodbank distributed over 13.7 million pounds of food in Oahu and Kauai, including 3.6 million pounds of fresh produce. The Hawaii Foodbank is a certified member of Feeding America and operates as the official food bank in the State of Hawaii. For more information, visit [www.hawaiifoodbank.org](http://www.hawaiifoodbank.org) or call (808) 836-3600.

###