



## News Release

Contact: Heather Collier  
573-475-7573  
hcollier@semofoodbank.org

### **Walmart Supercenter Holds Thanksgiving Food Drive for Neighbors Facing Hunger**

**SIKESTON, MO (Nov. 16, 2023)** – Shoppers at the Cape Girardeau Walmart Supercenter will have an opportunity to help neighbors facing hunger in the days before Thanksgiving.

The store will have food drive collection bins set up Saturday through Wednesday, and greeters will be handing out a wish list of food items to benefit Southeast Missouri Food Bank.

“The holidays can be a stressful time, especially for families facing hunger,” said Joey Keys, chief executive officer of Southeast Missouri Food Bank. “It’s hard to think about a special holiday meal when you’re already worried about paying bills and having enough to eat. Cape Girardeau Walmart Supercenter’s food drive couldn’t come at a better time, as more people turn to the food bank for help during the holiday season.”

Some of the most-needed items shoppers can purchase include shelf-stable proteins and canned items such as fruits, vegetables and soups. All donated items should be non-perishable.

Madelyn Bandermann, Frontend Coach at Cape Girardeau Walmart Supercenter, said she is proud to help the community in this way.

“We are striving to be good partners for our community,” Bandermann said.

Walmart Supercenter is at 3439 William St. in Cape Girardeau and is open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Southeast Missouri Food Bank serves 80,000 individuals each month through a network of 140 partner agencies and other programs. The food bank’s 16-county service area has some of the highest rates of hunger in the state, where one in six families and one in five children are food insecure.

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#### **About Southeast Missouri Food Bank**

The mission of Southeast Missouri Food Bank is to end hunger and leverage the power of food to build healthy communities. The food bank provides food to 140 charitable and disaster relief programs in Southeast Missouri. These member agencies include food

pantries, soup kitchens, domestic violence and homeless shelters. Southeast Missouri Food Bank also holds regular mobile food distributions and provides monthly boxes of food to 5,575 senior citizens and weekend backpacks of food during the school year to nearly 1,200 students in 30 school districts. The food bank's 16-county coverage area includes Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Dunklin, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Ste. Genevieve, Stoddard and Wayne counties. Those interested in helping can do so by making a tax-deductible contribution, donating food, or scheduling a time to volunteer. Visit [semofoodbank.org](http://semofoodbank.org) for more information.