

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Amanda Young

Office: (251) 653-1617 ext. 144

ayoung@feedingthegulfcoast.org



Feeding the Gulf Coast | 5249 Mobile South Street, Theodore, AL 36582 | (251) 653-1617

FEEDING THE GULF COAST RECEIVES \$17,000 DONATION FROM THE DARDEN FOUNDATION TO HELP END HUNGER

THEODORE, AL — Feeding the Gulf Coast is excited to announce a \$17,000 grant from The Darden Foundation to help provide hunger relief to families in the communities Feeding the Gulf Coast serves. The funds will be used to support Feeding the Gulf Coast's programs aimed at ending hunger along the Central Gulf Coast of Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi. Programs supported include Mobile Pantry, Afterschool Snack, Backpack, Summer Feeding, Nutrition Education, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach, Retail Store Level Pickup and Disaster Relief.

“Because of the generous support from The Darden Foundation, we are able to continue to strengthen our programs and our communities,” said Dave Reaney, Interim President & CEO of Feeding the Gulf Coast. “Our hunger-relief programs help deliver thousands of pounds of nutritious food to the communities we serve along the Central Gulf Coast, including rural areas that are considered a food desert. Support from The Darden Foundation helps Feeding the Gulf Coast to assist more than 20,000 families and individuals each month.”

The Darden Foundation is committed to supporting families facing food insecurity in communities across the United States. Their commitment to help is demonstrated through their partnership with Feeding America and their network of 200 food banks across the nation.

To learn more about Feeding the Gulf Coast, visit www.feedingthegulfcoast.org.

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About Feeding the Gulf Coast

Feeding the Gulf Coast, formerly Bay Area Food Bank, serves a 24-county area spanning the Florida panhandle, south Alabama, and south Mississippi. In 2018, the food bank distributed over 22 million meals to over 400 church pantries, soup kitchens, and other nonprofit organizations throughout its service area. The food bank also operates multiple hunger-relief and nutrition programs, including Summer Meals, Afterschool Meal, Backpack, Disaster Relief, Mobile Pantry and Produce Drop Distributions and Nutrition Education. Feeding the Gulf Coast is a United Way member agency and a member of Feeding America. For more information, visit www.feedingthegulfcoast.org.

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About Darden Restaurants and The Darden Foundation

Darden is a restaurant company featuring a portfolio of differentiated brands that include Olive Garden, LongHorn Steakhouse, Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen, Yard House, The Capital Grille, Seasons 52, Bahama Breeze and Eddie V's. Our people equal our success, and we are proud to employ 185,000 team members in more than 1,700 restaurants. Together, we create memorable experiences for nearly 400 million guests each year in communities across North America. The Darden Foundation works to bring to life our spirit of service through its philanthropic support of charitable organizations across the country. Since 1995, The Darden Foundation has awarded more than \$90 million in grants to non-profit organizations such as Feeding America, National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) and American Red Cross. For more information, please visit www.darden.com.