Press Release

For Immediate Release

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FEEDING THE GULF COAST POISED TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY HURRICANE DORIAN

Milton, FL – August 30, 2019

As we begin to see the effects of Hurricane Dorian, Feeding the Gulf Coast is collaborating with Feeding America, Feeding Florida, and other disaster responders to prepare to distribute food and water in areas affected by the hurricane.

At this time, Feeding the Gulf Coast is prepared to help the counties in Florida that are beginning to prepare for the worst. Currently, the food bank is prepped with water and MRE's which can be sent to any county when the need arises. Along with these critical items, Feeding the Gulf Coast is also prepared to send trucks, staff members, and resources to help with disaster relief.

If you are able to assist, Feeding the Gulf Coast will need your help as we emerge from Hurricane Dorian. We are asking for volunteers and monetary donations to tackle any upcoming needs. To find out how you can help those affected by Hurricane Dorian, please visit : <u>www.feedingthegulfcoast.org</u>. For those seeking food assistance, please call (888) 704-FOOD (3663).

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About Feeding the Gulf Coast:

Feeding the Gulf Coast, formerly Bay Area Food Bank, serves a 24-county area spanning south Alabama, south Mississippi and the Panhandle of Florida. In 2017, the food bank distributed over 19 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, Nutrition Education, and SNAP Outreach. Feeding the Gulf Coast is a United Way member agency and a member of Feeding America. For more information, visit <u>www.feedingthegulfcoast.org</u>.

Feeding the Gulf Coast's Non-discrimination Policy

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at:

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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