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## News Release

### FOOD BANK FOR THE HEARTLAND READY TO ASSIST FLOOD VICTIMS

#### Support offered to Red Cross and Salvation Army

OMAHA, NE, JUNE 3 – As Missouri River flood water rises prompting thousands of Nebraskans and lowans to leave their homes, Food Bank for the Heartland is prepared to help. Support has been offered to the local chapters of the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

“During times of crisis the Red Cross and the Salvation Army can provide immediate assistance to those in need,” said Susan Ogborn, President and CEO of the Food Bank. “The Food Bank can help both organizations by collecting the food they need, when then need it, so they can get it into the hands of flood victims.”

All of the counties in Nebraska and western Iowa impacted by the flooding are in the Food Bank’s service area.

“This disaster will only intensify the increasing need for emergency food we are currently experiencing at the Food Bank,” added Ogborn.

Donations for food targeted to flood victims can be made at [www.FoodBankHeartland.org](http://www.FoodBankHeartland.org) or dropped off to the Food Bank at 6824 J Street in Omaha.

During the month of May, the Food Bank distributed over one million pounds of food. It’s the first time in the Food Bank’s 30 year history that distribution has topped one million pounds. In 2010, the Food Bank distributed over nine million pounds of food, which was a 35 percent increase from 2009. Approximately 22,000 people in seek emergency food assistance in the Food Bank’s service area each week.

*About Food Bank for the Heartland (a member of Feeding America):*

Food Bank for the Heartland is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that acts as a central clearinghouse through which the food industry and community may donate surplus food to feed hungry individuals, families and children. Food is distributed to more than 350 member agencies in 77 counties in Nebraska and 16 counties in western Iowa. Annually, Food Bank for the Heartland distributes nine million pounds of product helping to feed over 150,000 people in need in the Heartland.

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