

For Immediate Release

Contact: Rob Peoni

Phone: 317-502-4130

Email: rob@secondhelpings.org

IndyFoodDrop.org launches with help from four of the city's largest hunger-relief agencies in an effort to save food and help feed hungry Hoosiers

Indianapolis – Four of Indianapolis' largest hunger-relief agencies collaborated on the launch of a new website, IndyFoodDrop.org, designed to help the trucking industry redirect any rejected food by local grocers and distributors from going into dumpsters and landfills, into the hands of people in need. By harnessing the power, people and resources of Gleaners Food Bank, Midwest Food Bank, Second Helpings and St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry under the umbrella of Indy Food Drop, truck drivers and brokers now have an easy way to get any rejected food items unloaded so they can get their trucks back on the road quickly – all while helping hundreds of families in need. The agencies partnered with the Indiana Motor Truck Association on this new initiative.

Jennifer Vigran, CEO of Second Helpings in Indianapolis, acknowledged the food is still fit for human consumption, just not for sale.

"Food is the fuel that allows the Second Helpings engine to operate" said Vigran. "We currently rescue 2.5 million pounds of food each year, which our volunteers transform into 4,000 meals each day. We are proud of this impact, but we are always looking for opportunities to do more. With that in mind, we are excited to work with our fellow Indy Hunger Network member organizations on this new initiative to further reduce unnecessary food waste, and move closer to eradicating hunger in Indianapolis."

"Local wholesalers, grocers, caterers and restaurateurs are essential partners in the work we do at Second Helpings. Indy Food Drop will extend that growing network to capture food waste at its source, by incorporating the truck drivers and brokers who supply the organizations we're already working with and so many more who have yet to get onboard. It's a big opportunity with a lot of potential."

IndyFoodDrop.org clearly and succinctly provides drivers with access and information to change their food disposal process. Rather than dumping rejected food, drivers can now head to one of the four food hunger-relief agencies where they will receive help unloading their truck, a tax-deductible receipt and the benefit of knowing they are helping the hungry through a coordinated food recovery effort.

"This is a natural partnership for us to help get the word out about this website to our industry, and a great opportunity for the Indiana Motor Truck Association (IMTA) to make a difference in the fight against hunger," said Barb Hunt, vice president, IMTA. "To know nutritious food that might otherwise get thrown away is in turn helping feed the hungry is truly rewarding."

###

At Second Helpings, we're helping transform lives through the power of food. By accepting donated perishable and overstocked food, we prepare nutritious meals for thousands of hungry children and adults every day and distribute them free of charge through social service agencies in Greater Indianapolis. For more information, visit www.secondhelpings.org.