

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Farm Bureau Insurance Announces \$500,000 Donation to Six Arkansas Foodbanks**

**Jonesboro, April 17, 2020:** The Farm Bureau Insurance companies announced a \$500,000 gift to the six foodbanks that cover the state of Arkansas, including the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas.

“Farm Bureau Insurance regularly responds to the needs of our customers when storm events occur, and we think it is appropriate that Farm Bureau help all Arkansas communities during these tough economic times,” said David Moore, senior vice president and general manager of Farm Bureau’s insurance companies in Arkansas. “Food banks are playing an especially important role in feeding families during this unprecedented time and we are humbled and honored to provide this gift for your use.”

According to Christie Jordan, CEO for the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas, this gift is coming at a critical time as 150,000 Arkansans have filed for unemployment benefits in recent weeks.

“Right now, many people are facing hard times as they have been furloughed or unemployed due to COVID-19 and recent storms,” Jordan said. “People may be in a tough place they didn’t expect to be in just a few weeks ago. The Food Bank and our partner food pantries are here to help. We want families to know they shouldn’t feel embarrassed to ask for help.”

Jordan said that their food pantry network anticipates an increased need for their services for months to come as families recovery from storms and economic hardships

The \$500,000 gift will be distributed amongst the six food banks in Arkansas, based on the number of counties each serves.

“Farm Bureau’s founding mission is to feed and support the families that put food on our tables,” said Rich Hillman, a rice farmer from Carlisle who serves as president of Arkansas Farm Bureau. “Providing relief to our communities in a time of need is a core value of the Farm Bureau.”

The donation is part of Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance’s commitment of \$2.3 million to food banks across its six-state footprint, including Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

#### **About Arkansas Farm Bureau Insurance**

Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Arkansas, Inc. and Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Company are two of the largest writers of property and casualty insurance in the state of Arkansas. We have insurance agents and adjusters in every county of the state to help meet the needs of our policyholders. This strong local presence throughout Arkansas combined with our excellent capitalization and solid operating results have earned us an Excellent rating with A.M. Best.

**About Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas:**

The Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas provides hunger relief to people in need by raising awareness, securing resources, and distributing food through a network of non-profit agencies and programs. The Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas provides the equivalent of 119,000 meals each week to people facing hunger. We work in partnership with 140 nonprofit partner agencies and programs in 12 counties in Northeast Arkansas. These counties include: Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph, St. Francis, and Woodruff. Additionally, the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas is a member of Feeding America, a national network of food banks. Through our many partnerships, every \$1 donated can help provide 4 meals. For additional information, please visit our website [www.foodbankofnea.org](http://www.foodbankofnea.org). You can also find the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas on Facebook @FoodBankofNEA, Twitter @foodbankofnea, and Instagram @foodbankofnea.