

# OHIO ASSOCIATION OF FOODBANKS

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## *Governor John Kasich Provides End-of-Year Boost to Ohio's Foodbanks*

### **Media Statement from Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, executive director for the Ohio Association of Foodbanks:**

“Earlier today at his year-end wrap-up at the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Governor John Kasich signed an Executive Order providing an additional \$500,000 to support the Ohio Food Program and Agricultural Clearance Program. This program allows us to provide nutritious, Ohio-grown fruits and vegetables and wholesome, center-of-the-plate foods to Ohio families struggling with hunger.

“I am incredibly humbled to accept this support on behalf of our 12 member Feeding America foodbanks and their 3,300 member food pantries, soup kitchens and homeless shelters. Governor Kasich has been a true champion for our emergency hunger relief efforts since the very beginnings of his administration, when he and First Lady Karen Kasich donated remaining campaign proceeds to support backpack programs for children in need.

“With more than one in three Ohioans now eligible for help from our network, there are 3.8 million seniors, children, people living with disabilities, caregivers, parents and low-income or unemployed workers in our state who can't always afford enough food on their own.

“Once again, as he has done so many times before, Governor Kasich has risen to the challenge. He's responded at a critical time to keep food pantry shelves stocked and food on the table for local families. His leadership and investment in hunger relief helps our member foodbanks respond to the growing need in their communities. I want to extend my most heartfelt thanks on behalf of our network to Governor Kasich for his leadership on the issue of hunger and for this humbling display of compassion as we enter the Christmas season. We are truly grateful.”

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### **About the Ohio Association of Foodbanks**

*The Ohio Association of Foodbanks is Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger, representing Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks and 3,300 member charities including food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. In SFY 2015, the association and its member foodbanks were able to acquire and distribute over 197 million pounds of food and grocery items. The association also serves as the home of The Ohio Benefit Bank and operates the state's largest navigator program for the Affordable Care Act. Follow the association on [Twitter](#), stay connected on [Facebook](#) and visit them on the web at [www.ohiofoodbanks.org](http://www.ohiofoodbanks.org).*

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