

Media Release

More than 1 million bowls of porridge in one day!

Melbourne, 26 March 2012: As the temperature starts to drop, Foodbank - Australia's largest hunger relief charity - prepares for another winter of food assistance and thanks to Uncle Tobys, warming porridge will be one of the offerings.

Uncle Tobys will donate a full day's production of Uncle Tobys Oats to Foodbank today; 93,600 packets or the equivalent of more than 1 million bowls of porridge to feed those in need.

This is the third year that the Uncle Tobys factory at Wahgunyah in rural Victoria has donated Oats to Foodbank as part of the charity's Collaborative Supply Program. The combined donations represent a commitment of product with a retail value of more than \$1 million.

David Flanagan, Uncle Tobys Factory Manager said: "We are really happy that we're able to assist Foodbank in this way and ensure that people who are struggling at the very least have access to a sustaining breakfast."

Foodbank General Manager, Greg Warren, said: "It is a fact that in virtually every Australian community there are people who are impoverished and in need, whether they are the working poor, single parent families or the elderly. Hunger threatens two million people annually, half of whom are children struggling to succeed at school while dealing with the impact of lack of nutrition."

"We're extremely grateful to Uncle Tobys who was the first company to partner with us in the Collaborative Supply Program. The Oats are a valuable addition to our provisions as our welfare agencies are keen to be able to provide nutritionally-balanced and filling breakfasts," Mr Warren said.

Foodbank provides rescued and donated food to over 2,500 charities, community groups and school breakfast programs for distribution to adults and children struggling to provide for themselves either due to emergencies or long term hardship.

The companies which partnered with Uncle Tobys in today's donation include: Croker Grain, Amcor Cartonboard and Amcor Fibre, SBA Transport and Frances Transport. Additional funding was provided by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

For more details about Foodbank Australia and to make a donation visit www.foodbank.com.au

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About Foodbank

Foodbank is the largest hunger relief organisation in Australia which acts as a pantry to the welfare sector. It is a national non-denominational organisation with distribution centres in all six states, the Northern Territory and eight regional centres. In partnership with food industry, the corporate sector, governments, charities and volunteers, Foodbank tackles the problem of hunger in Australia wherever it arises.

Foodbank acts as a conduit between the food and grocery industry's surplus food and the welfare sector's need. Food companies deliver their donations to Foodbank warehouses around the country – last year alone they provided 21 million kilograms of food and groceries. Over 2,500 charities collect the donated food and distribute it to people in need. The food rescued by Foodbank feeds on average 75,000 people a day.

Media enquiries:

Event

When: Monday, March 26 at 11am
Where: At the Uncle Tobys Factory
13 Talbot Road
Wahgunuyah

For more information:

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