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BASHAS' SUPERMARKETS HOLD STATEWIDE FOOD DRIVE TO BENEFIT LOCAL FOOD BANKS AND ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

ARIZONA (July 30, 2008) – During the month of August, Bashas' Supermarkets are teaming up with local radio stations and the community at large to hold a statewide food drive. One hundred percent of all donations from the drive will benefit local food banks and St. Vincent de Paul.

"The summer is a tough time for us," said Donna Rodgers of United Food Bank. "Our shelves are bare, yet we're seeing requests for food increase due to spiking gas prices and the economy in general. We don't want to turn anyone away, but we have no choice if we don't have food to give them."

Eighty-two Bashas' stores throughout the state will participate in this "Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation" food drive, selling \$1 icons at their cash registers from Aug. 1-31.

"Family budgets are really under attack," said Susan de Queljoe of St. Vincent de Paul. "Working poor families are forced to choose between buying food or buying fuel. We're seeing more people than ever before asking for help in feeding their children. Now is the time for people to think about their neighbors in need and participate in this important food drive."

By donating to the drive, shoppers will be helping to provide food to families in need throughout the state. Individuals who donate also will have the chance to win various prizes, such as Arizona "Staycations," water park passes, movie passes and concert tickets from partner radio stations KESZ Radio in Phoenix, KIIM Radio in Tucson and KAFF Radio in Flagstaff.

The goal of the month-long food drive is to raise at least \$20,000 for these local, non-profit organizations, all of which are in need of immediate support.

About Bashas' Supermarkets

Bashas' is an Arizona-based, family-owned and -operated grocery chain known for its fresh produce, made-from-scratch bakery items, full-service butcher shop and award-winning Chef's Entrées. Bashas' was established in 1932 and has given more than \$100 million back to the communities it serves. For more information, visit www.bashas.com.

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