



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Terra Verde and Benvenuti's Fight Childhood Hunger Once Again *Fundraiser Lunch Benefits Food for Kids*

(Norman, Okla.) – Jan. 6, 2015 – On January 8, students from Terra Verde Discovery School will once again team up with Benvenuti's to raise donations for the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma's Food for Kids program in Cleveland County. For a \$10 donation, guests will enjoy a pasta buffet, a salad and a drink. The lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Benvenuti's, located at 105 W. Main St. in Norman. The students help with the fundraiser by greeting guests, serving as a cashier and bussing the tables.

"When we learned that there were children going to bed without food in our community, and many without food for the entire weekend, we founded Terre Verde Café," said Pete Wilson, cofounder of Terra Verde Cafe and CEO of Top of the World. "The goal is to end hunger in Norman. By educating the community, we believe that Norman residents will rally together with us to end this injustice."

One in four children in Oklahoma struggles with hunger every day. A \$200 gift will support a child in Food for Kids for an entire school year. So far, Terra Verde Cafe has raised enough funds to provide 86 backpacks to children in Food for Kids.

Last school year, the Regional Food Bank provided the equivalent of 2.7 million meals to chronically hungry children through Food for Kids childhood hunger programs: the Backpack Program, Kids Cafe, Summer Feeding, and School Pantries.

- Through the **Backpack Program**, children receive a backpack full of kid-friendly, non-perishable and nutritious food on Friday to sustain them over weekends and school holidays. Last school year, more than 18,500 students in 501 schools participated in the Backpack Program.
- The **School Pantry Program** provides chronically hungry middle and high school students with food to sustain them after school and over the weekends. The School Pantry Program ended last school year serving nearly 4,800 students in 124 middle and high schools.

- **Kids Cafe and Snack Sites**, an afterschool and summer program provides food, mentoring, tutoring, and a variety of other activities to more than 2,600 at-risk children at 25 sites in central and western Oklahoma.

Together, we can solve hunger. Through January 15, Chesapeake Energy Corporation and the Cresap Family Foundation have teamed up to match every dollar donated to the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma to fight childhood hunger – up to \$1 million! To make a tax-deductible donation to the Regional Food Bank, call 405.600.3136 or visit regionalfoodbank.org.

The Regional Food Bank is the state's largest private hunger-relief organization, providing enough food to feed more than 110,000 hungry Oklahomans every week through a network of more than 1,200 charitable feeding programs and schools in 53 central and western Oklahoma counties.

About the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma

The Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma is the state's largest private hunger relief organization. The nonprofit provides enough food to feed more than 110,000 hungry Oklahomans each week through a network of more than 1,200 schools and charitable feeding programs in 53 central and western Oklahoma counties. Since its inception in 1980, the Regional Food Bank has distributed more than 550 million pounds of food to feed Oklahoma's hungry. For more information, visit <http://www.regionalfoodbank.org>; find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/regionalfoodbank or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/rfbo.

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