



Ahern & Associates Preparing for Launch of Biannual Fundraising Efforts in Support of St. Mary's Food Bank

Preparations are Underway as CEO Andy Ahern Marks His 16th Year as an Avid Supporter of St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance



PHOENIX, AZ, UNITED STATES, November 25, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- rucking and transportation consulting firm Ahern & Associates is preparing to just launched its biannual fundraising drive in support of [St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance](#) this past Thursday. Founder and CEO Andy Ahern has been a Partner In Hunger for 16 years and has earned the distinction of being named a Hunger Hero for his fundraising efforts for the food bank. Having already raised over \$1 million in food for St. Mary's in past drives, the team at Ahern & Associates is looking forward to this next launch with much anticipation and excitement. The firm devotes its time and energy to helping families with small children and the elderly throughout the year, and the fundraising drive for St. Mary's is just one of many events the team participates in regularly.

St. Mary's is one of the country's largest food banks and is also the oldest. The food bank is a first responder to calls for assistance to help various states when catastrophes occur. Every dollar that is donated equates to \$7.00 worth of food. In Sedona, Arizona following the slide rock fire disaster, St. Mary's sent a truckload of bottled water to support relief efforts in the area, along with toiletry items, ready-to-eat meals for disaster workers and emergency food and supply boxes for displaced families. The food bank has also sent infant formula, snacks, personal hygiene items, meal packages, water, and emergency supplies to victims of recent hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, tropical storms and other disasters across the entire country.

Under the Supplemental Poverty Measure, there are 49.7 million people in the United States living in poverty. Although hunger and poverty are a related issue, food insecurity and poverty are not the same. Poverty is only one of many factors associated with food insecurity. Higher unemployment, lower household assets, and certain demographic characteristics lead to a lack of access to adequate nutritious food. In 2013, 40.9 million Americans lived in food-insecure households, including 33.3 million adults and 15.8 million children. Approximately 17.5 million households were food-insecure.

Food insecurity exists in every county in America, ranging from a low of 4% in certain areas of North Dakota to a high of 33% in certain counties in Mississippi. Eight states have statistically higher household food insecurity rates than the US national average. "As human beings, we all have dreams for our families and if you are a parent, you recognize that your children come first," says Andy Ahern. "However, it's very difficult to be able to stand by and watch your children not have enough to eat, not to mention not at Christmas or Thanksgiving."

Whether families have been victims of a catastrophe, they have experienced a major illness in the family and are financially crippled because of it, or they are trying to just earn a better living, St. Mary's Food Bank responds. Andy Ahern is extending a call to action to support St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance in the spirit of giving this holiday season.

For more information about St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance and to learn how to help, please visit <http://www.firstfoodbank.org>. For more information on Ahern & Associates, please call 602-242-1030 or visit <http://www.ahern-ltd.com>.

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About Ahern & Associates, Ltd.

Ahern and Associates is North America's leading trucking and transportation management consulting firm. The skilled consultants at Ahern and Associates specialize in mergers and acquisitions of trucking and logistics companies as well as the restructuring and evaluation of existing carriers that seek to increase operating efficiency and improve profitability. Since 1987, Ahern and Associates has aided hundreds of buyers in the acquisition of trucking and logistics companies throughout the U.S. and Canada as well as assisting many transportation and logistics companies in reducing their overall operating costs and increasing their profitability.

For more information, please call 602-242-1030 or visit <http://www.ahern-ltd.com>.

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