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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 10, 2019

Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County Receives \$33,162 *Hunger Is* Grant from Albertsons/Vons Foundation for its Summer Breakfast Bag Program

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA —The Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County is excited to receive a \$33,162 grant from the Albertsons/Vons Foundation from their *Hunger Is* initiative to eradicate childhood hunger during the summer of 2019.

The funds will be used to purchase nutritious, kid-friendly breakfast foods for the SLO Food Bank Coalition's Summer Breakfast Bag program which provides multiple weeks' worth of healthy breakfast items, nutrition information, and fun recipes in a reusable backpack for each participating child. The bags are delivered to high need locations serving families with children.

"We're excited that the Albertsons/Vons Foundation is supporting the work we do to help local kids start their day with a good, nutritious meal," said Andrea Keisler, Director of Programs. "We thank our local Albertsons and Vons stores and their customers for helping us continue to make a difference in the lives of children in San Luis Obispo County."

Access to nutritious meals during the summer is crucial in the lives of many children in our county, whose risk for food insecurity increases during the summer months - a time of the year when they are not able to receive free or reduced priced meals at school. The Food Bank Coalition's Summer Breakfast Bags help alleviate summertime food insecurity for families and make sure children are healthy and engaged when school is back in session.

Hunger Is, a charitable program of the Albertsons/Vons Foundation, is designed to build awareness and raise funds in an effort to eradicate childhood hunger in America. Funds raised through *Hunger Is* focus on adding breakfasts in and out of school through federal nutrition programs and other means to combat childhood hunger and improving other health-related outcomes. Each Albertsons/Vons location selects a local organization or food bank to receive the donations. Funds for this \$33,162 grant were collected by Albertsons and Vons stores in Nipomo, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, Atascadero, Paso Robles, and Grover Beach.

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About the Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County: The Food Bank Coalition is a non-profit, tax exempt organization, serving all of San Luis Obispo County through its direct food programs and network of community partners. The Food Bank Coalition's mission is to alleviate hunger in San Luis Obispo County and build a healthier community. The Food Bank Coalition distributes an average of 4 million pounds of food per year to help our neighbors struggling with hunger. Half of the food that is distributed is fresh produce, including produce harvested locally by the GleanSLO program. To learn more about the work done by the Food Bank Coalition throughout San Luis Obispo County, please visit www.slofoodbank.org.