



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Kroger Donates Funds and Food To Feeding America Southwest Virginia

Kroger donated more than \$730,000 in food and funds to Feeding America Southwest Virginia food bank in 2016.

Erik Bowman, manager of the Lakeside Kroger, today presented a check for nearly \$20,000 to Pamela Irvine, president & CEO of the Food Bank. The money came from Kroger's *Bringing Hope to the Table* program, in which Kroger donated \$3 million to local food banks across the country.

Feeding America Southwest Virginia will use the money to support charitable food distribution. Feeding America Southwest Virginia distributes food through a network of 373 partner programs including food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, after school programs and back pack programs.

In addition, Kroger donated approximately 427,000 pounds of perishable food to the Food Bank last year. The food is enough for 355,000 meals valued at approximately \$713,000.

"Kroger provides perishable food to Feeding America Southwest Virginia all year long," said Allison McGee, spokesperson for Kroger's Mid-Atlantic Division. "We donate meat, seafood, fruit, vegetables, dairy products and other perishable foods to improve the nutrition of thousands of our neighbors in Southwest Virginia."

“In Southwest Virginia, one in every eight people is at risk of going hungry, said Irvine. “These individuals may be your family members, friends or neighbors,” she added.

“Kroger has been our partner in the fight against hunger for many years,” said Irvine. “We appreciate Kroger’s continued commitment and the way Kroger brings associates and customers together to make a difference in the lives of thousands of people in Southwest Virginia.”

Last year, Feeding America distributed more than \$31 million worth of food and grocery related products through a network of 373 partner feeding programs in 26 counties and nine cities in Southwest Virginia. The Food Bank has distribution centers in Salem and Abingdon.

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About Kroger’s Mid-Atlantic Division:

The Mid-Atlantic Division operates 121 stores, 118 pharmacies and 93 fuel centers in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky and Ohio. Headquartered in Roanoke, the Mid-Atlantic Division is dedicated to making a difference in the communities it serves by supporting hunger relief, women’s health, our troops and their families, and local schools and grassroots organizations. Kroger is also a strong supporter of the Salvation Army, American Red Cross and organizations that promote the advancement of women and minorities. In 2016 Kroger’s charitable giving is \$287 million. *Fortune* magazine named Kroger the “most generous company in America.” For more information, visit www.kroger.com.

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