News Release



Contact: Lisa Church 573-475-7566 Ichurch@semofoodbank.org

Registration Opens for SEMO Food Bank Golf Classic at Dalhousie

Sikeston, MO (June 10, 2020) – Registration has opened for the Southeast Missouri Food Bank Ninth Annual Golf Classic to be held Monday, August, 31, at Dalhousie Golf Club in Cape Girardeau.

Team registration for the four-man scramble is \$600 and includes lunch, golf cart, and snacks and drinks along the course. The roster is limited to 25 teams for the par-72 Jack Nicklaus designed course, which is one of the top three private golf courses in the state.

"The past few months have been incredibly challenging," said SEMO Food Bank Chief Executive Officer Joey Keys. "We think by the end of August people will be more than ready for a little golf therapy.

"More importantly, it's an opportunity to help feed hungry children in Southeast Missouri. When schools closed early and people began losing their jobs because of COVID-19, we saw a tremendous increase in the number of people needing food assistance. This tournament helps us support programs targeted specifically at feeding children right here in this area."

Proceeds from the tournament benefit the food bank's BackPacks for Friday (BFF) and A Better Childhood (ABC) Mobile Food Pantry Programs. The backpack program provides weekend food to children who need it. The backpacks are discreetly distributed to children in participating schools during the school year. The mobile food distributions help fill the gap, especially the higher need during summer when children aren't in school. Combined, the programs provide food to more than 1,000 hungry children every month.

Team check-in begins at 11 a.m. with lunch being served at 11:45 a.m. Tee times begin at 12:30 p.m. The day also includes contests, and the winner of the hole-in-one could receive a \$10,000 prize provided by First Midwest Bank in Cape Girardeau.

Interested teams can register online at SemoFoodBank.org, click on Events and Annual Golf Classic, or call the Food Bank at 573-471-1818. Sponsorship opportunities also are available, and can be arranged by calling Lisa Church at 573-475-7566.

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About Southeast Missouri Food Bank

The mission of Southeast Missouri Food Bank is to end hunger and leverage the power of food to build a healthy community. Founded in 1985 in Sikeston, the food bank provides food to more than 140 member agencies including food pantries, soup kitchens, domestic violence and homeless shelters, senior citizen programs, children's programs, and non-profit rehabilitation facilities. The Food Bank's 16-county coverage area includes Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Dunklin, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, Ste. Genevieve, Stoddard, and Wayne counties. The Food Bank is affiliated with Feeding America, the nation's largest food bank network, and has received the highest possible rating from Charity Navigator, attesting to its adherence to best practices. Those interested in helping can do so by making a tax-deductible contribution, donating food, or scheduling a time to volunteer. Visit <u>SemoFoodBank.org</u> for more information.