

# CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK RECEIVES \$20,000 GRANT FROM *HUNGER IS* TO FIGHT CHILDHOOD HUNGER



***Hunger Is, a joint charitable campaign of The Safeway Foundation and the Entertainment Industry Foundation, helps CAFB address hunger in Washington metro area***

**Washington, D.C. – April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – The Capital Area Food Bank received a \$20,000 grant from *Hunger Is* to help solve childhood hunger in the Washington metro area. The CAFB, a member of the Feeding America network of food banks, was nominated by Safeway store managers to receive the grant, which was made possible by customers who contributed to the month-long, in-store fundraiser this spring. *Hunger Is*, the joint charitable program of The Safeway Foundation and the Entertainment Industry Foundation featuring Academy Award®-nominated actress and *Hunger Is* Ambassador Viola Davis, raised more than \$4.6 million from shoppers throughout 1,300 Safeway stores across the country, as well as through online contributions, to support eradicating childhood hunger in the United States.

With school winding down for the summer, students risk missing out on the free lunch provided by public schools. To meet this need, the CAFB operates summer feeding programs at 67 camps, churches, recreation centers and residential facilities last year across Washington, Maryland and Virginia. The \$20,000 *Hunger Is* grant will bolster the CAFB's ability to provide free, healthy meals and snacks to children who are out of school in the summer.

"We're very grateful to receive this *Hunger Is* grant to bolster our commitment to hunger-relief," said Susan Topping, Sr. Director of Partners & Programs at the Capital Area Food Bank. "It is imperative that the children in our community have basic necessities like food in order to succeed, and this grant will most certainly make a difference. We thank everyone who donated to the campaign – together, we *are* solving hunger."

To learn more about the *Hunger Is* campaign, visit [HungerIs.org](http://HungerIs.org). For ways to get involved in hunger-relief efforts locally, visit [www.capitalareafoodbank.org](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org)

## **About the Capital Area Food Bank**

The Capital Area Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in the Washington metro area, serving over 530,000 people through direct food distribution programs and a network of 469 food assistance partners. Last year, the CAFB distributed 42 million pounds of food – the equivalent of 35 million meals – one third of which was fresh fruits and vegetables. A member of Feeding America, the CAFB takes a comprehensive approach to addressing hunger by increasing access to nutritious food, and initiating change through skill-building and advocacy. To learn more, visit [www.capitalareafoodbank.org](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org), or find the Capital Area Food Bank on Facebook at [facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank), and Twitter at [@foodbankmetrodc](https://twitter.com/foodbankmetrodc).

## **About *Hunger Is***

*Hunger Is*, a joint charitable program of The Safeway Foundation and the Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF), is designed to build awareness and raise funds in an effort to eradicate childhood hunger in America. Funds raised through *Hunger Is* directly benefit programs focused on combating childhood hunger and improving health-related outcomes.

Through the *Hunger Is* Advisory Committee (HIAC), *Hunger Is* works together with the leading hunger organizations including Drexel University, Center for Hunger-Free Communities; Feeding America; Food Research and Action Center (FRAC); New York City Coalition Against Hunger; Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign; and WhyHunger. The HIAC provides guidance in defining and addressing needs and makes funding recommendations for approval by The Safeway Foundation and EIF Boards of Directors. For more information, visit [www.HungerIs.org](http://www.HungerIs.org).

### **About The Safeway Foundation**

Founded in 2001, The Safeway Foundation supports causes that impact our customers' lives. Safeway stores provide the opportunity to mobilize funding and create awareness in our neighborhoods through the generous contributions by our customers, our employees' passion and partnerships with our vendors. We focus on giving locally in the areas of health and human services, hunger relief, education and helping people with disabilities. Safeway Inc. and The Safeway Foundation have invested \$1 billion in our neighborhoods since 2001. For more information about The Safeway Foundation, visit [www.safewayfoundation.org](http://www.safewayfoundation.org).

### **About Feeding America**

Feeding America is the nationwide network of 200 food banks that leads the fight against hunger in the United States. Together, we provide food to more than 46 million people through 60,000 food pantries and meal programs in communities across America. Feeding America also supports programs that improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org), find us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

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