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Food Bank of Delaware Receives \$75,000 Grant from the Walmart Foundation to Support SNAP Education and Outreach

Newark, Del. (October 12, 2018) – The Food Bank of Delaware today announced a \$75,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation to help fight hunger in Delaware through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) education and outreach.

SNAP is the largest federal program dedicated to providing aid to millions of low-income individuals and families in food insecure communities. Yet, 17 percent of Americans eligible for SNAP currently do not receive this benefit. Only 42 percent of eligible seniors are enrolled.

“One in six children in Delaware have limited or no access to nutritious food; food that is essential in their educational and social development. At the Food Bank of Delaware, we work tirelessly to help fill this need, but programs like SNAP can boost the supply of nutritious food in a child’s household, something our community really needs,” said Food Bank of Delaware President and CEO Patricia Beebe.

With this grant, the Food Bank of Delaware hopes to scale access to SNAP among eligible households, with particular emphasis on reaching seniors, families with children, and other vulnerable populations. Funding will support the Food Bank’s efforts to implement the Hunger Vital Signs food insecurity screening at health care providers.

The Food Bank will offer training and assistance to healthcare staff at community-based centers on implementing food insecurity screening and providing referral resources for food insecure clients including SNAP and other publicly available resources to help promote health and nutrition literacy among food insecure clients. Upon receiving a referral, a Food Bank of Delaware SNAP Outreach team member will contact the client to screen them for SNAP eligibility and schedule an application appointment.

SNAP provides more than nutrition assistance; it helps improve families’ overall well-being. With lower grocery bills, people are better able to pay for other basic necessities—rent or mortgages, medical expenses, utilities and transportation. According to the USDA’s Economic Research Service Report, SNAP is critical to moving families into long-term food security.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation provide donations of both food and funds to the Feeding America nationwide network of 200 food banks. Locally, Walmart delivered close to 600,000 pounds of food to the Food Bank of Delaware last year, and since 2016, donated close to \$500,000.

For more information about what the Food Bank of Delaware is doing to fight hunger, visit www.fbd.org.

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The Food Bank of Delaware distributes millions of pounds of products each year to its network of 536 hunger-relief program partners throughout the state and also provides thousands of meals a month for children through the After-School Nutrition Program, the Summer Grab and Go Program and the Backpack Program. The Food Bank of Delaware provides community outreach through the Supplemental

Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC). Financial literacy coaching through \$tand By Me and nutrition education are also offered to empower Delawareans. Delaware Food Works, a workforce development initiative of the Food Bank of Delaware, provides training for adults interested in careers in the food service industry, warehousing/logistics and agriculture. For more information about the Food Bank of Delaware, visit www.fbd.org or call (302) 292-1305.