



Proclamation

Hunger is a serious challenge in the State of Hawai'i. Because of financial constraints, families in need often face tough choices, such as choosing between food and medicine, medical treatment, rent or mortgage payments.

Since 1983, the Hawai'i Foodbank has sought to provide food to those in need and ensure no one goes hungry in our state 'ohana. Together with its Neighbor Island partners, the Hawai'i Foodbank serves as an important link between donors and families, gathering food and support from the community and distributing that food to charitable agencies serving those in need.

Last year, the Hawai'i Foodbank distributed more than 8 million pounds of food to more than 250 charities across O'ahu, which include food pantries, feeding programs, homeless shelters, rehabilitation centers and soup kitchens. In a statewide partnership, the Hawai'i Foodbank, Hawai'i Island Food Bank, Maui Food Bank and Kaua'i Food Bank distributed 11 million pounds of food to 400 feeding programs.

These four food banks and their member agencies feed 131,862 people statewide each year, including more than 32,000 children, more than 14,000 seniors, the homeless, low-income working families, the disabled, the temporarily unemployed and those experiencing sudden emergencies.

While the food banks on each island have experienced tremendous growth and success during the years, they still rely heavily on its volunteers and public donations. On April 21, the Hawai'i Foodbank, Hawai'i Island Food Bank, Maui Food Bank and Kaua'i Food Bank will hold the 18th Annual Food Drive to raise awareness of hunger in Hawaii and collect food and funds to feed the hungry.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **April 2007** as

HELPING TO FEED HAWAI'I'S HUNGRY MONTH

in Hawai'i, and strongly encourage our citizens to give generously to the Food Drive on April 21 and throughout the year.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this third day of April 2007.

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i