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Harvest Regional Food Bank Red Nose Day Foundation Awards \$10,000 Grant for Backpack Program

Texarkana USA January 22, 2016– Harvest Regional Food Bank, Texarkana received a grant from the Red Nose Day foundation, for \$10,000 to support Harvest's Backpack program.

Harvest's Backpack program is designed to help children who are considered food insecure. Teachers identify students in their classrooms each year that may not be receiving enough food at home and recommend them for the Backpack program. The Backpack program serves over 700 area school children in 25 schools this year. Each weekend during the school year the children get a bag placed in their backpacks with kid friendly ready to eat meals and snacks to help tied them over until Monday morning.

The Red Nose Day Foundation is a Feeding American partner. Red Nose Day USA is run by Comic Relief Inc. an organization dedicated creating a just world, free from poverty; and with the mission to effect positive change through the power of entertainment.

About Harvest Regional Food Bank

Harvest Regional Food Bank is the food bank serving Bowie Co Texas as well as the southwestern corner of Arkansas including Miller, Lafayette, Hempstead, Little River, Sevier, Howard, Pike, Nevada and Columbia Counties. As a Feeding America and Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance member, our mission is to eliminate hunger in this region through food distribution and education. Formed in 1989 as a food rescue organization, Harvest Regional has grown to a full service food bank distribution center providing over 2.3 million pounds of food in 2014 to 100 partner hunger relief agencies. Harvest Regional continues to serve as a food rescue



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operation, collecting excess prepared foods for local shelters and soup kitchens. Harvest Regional also operates a backpack program serving 25 campuses in 10 school districts as well as providing resources to agencies to operate backpack programs in the districts outside Texarkana. More information can be found at <u>www.harvesttexarkana.org</u> or by following us on Facebook or Twitter.