



Contact Lori Sutorius Jones
Phone: 303-678-7102
Cell: 303-981-2328
lori@avocetcommunications.com

Media Advisory

Coloradoan's Love Affair with Giving Grows! *arc Thrifts Stores to deliver 112 tons of food to Volunteer's of America City Harvest.*

June 11, 2009 – Denver, Colorado. The 9th Annual “Feed Denver” food drive by arc Thrift Stores brought in fourteen more tons of food than the 2008 drive. arc Thrift Stores will deliver 112 tons of non-perishable food to Volunteers of America’s City Harvest Food Bank on Saturday June 13, 2009 between 8:00am and noon at 2620 Larimer Street in Denver. This enormous shipment will require eight semi-trucks containing 152 pallets for delivery. VOA’s City Harvest Food Bank distributes food to over 75 local food banks and shelters free of charge.

Volunteers of America’s City Harvest Food Bank is experiencing an unprecedented demand for food from the communities it serves. The need is staggering: 15% of households in Colorado are food insecure. The current economic climate requires more donations to assist the growing number of hungry families throughout the Colorado Front Range. “In spite of difficult economic times, Coloradoans are showing their love for one another by giving more. We thank everyone who donated food to this year’s drive,” said Lloyd Lewis President/CEO of arc Thrift Stores.

The six-week food drive is spearheaded by arc Thrift Store’s call center employees, known as “Jane.” As they make their usual calls for donations of clothing and household items, they remind donors that they can also donate food items to the Volunteers of America. With this simple suggestion, over 60,000 households participated in the drive. This donation is the single largest donation of food received by Volunteers of America and a great example of one non-profit helping another.

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About arc Thrift Stores: arc Thrift Stores operates 19 thrift stores throughout Colorado and provides funding to arc Chapters, which in turn provide advocacy for people with developmental disabilities. arc Thrift Stores is one of the largest employers of individuals with developmental disabilities in the state of Colorado.

About VOA: Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization that is dedicated to helping those in need rebuild their lives and reach their full potential. In Colorado, the Volunteers of America administers 30 different human service programs in addition to subsidized housing and health care. The Volunteers of America Colorado Branch helped over 196,000 individuals during 2006 including the frail elderly, at-risk youth, victims of domestic violence and homeless individuals and families. To learn more about the Volunteers of America, visit www.voacolorado.org.