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Food Recovery Network Announces New Partnership with Hungry Harvest

COLLEGE PARK, MD — September 19, 2019 — Food Recovery Network and Hungry Harvest are proud to announce a new partnership to expand their mission to reduce food waste and food insecurity. Their shared values and goals provide a natural partnership between the two organizations that tackle these problems, albeit in different ways. Food Recovery Network (FRN) empowers students and businesses to recover surplus food from their cafeterias and dining halls and donate it to hunger-fighting nonprofits. Hungry Harvest recovers farm fresh produce that would otherwise go to waste due to farmer surpluses or for failing to meet arbitrary cosmetic standards and pack it into variety boxes to deliver directly to customers’ homes.

Hungry Harvest and FRN have long been close friends; and now, both parties are excited to make this working partnership official. Initially, this will include cross-promotion of initiatives and events, a discount from Hungry Harvest to FRN members, and continued mutual support in the fight to reduce food waste and hunger; with more collaboration and integration to come.

Food Recovery Network helped lay the foundation for Hungry Harvest with an enterprise developed under FRN in 2013 — a farm stand called the Recovered Food CSA, selling one farmer’s surplus produce to college students. Hungry Harvest Co-Founder and CEO Evan Lutz, a former FRN intern, said “without the infrastructure and support that FRN provided through the pilot stage of Hungry Harvest, we wouldn’t be where we are today — in nine states, with nearly 60 employees and over 15 million pounds of food recovered.” Every Hungry Harvest box that a subscriber orders rescues approximately ten pounds of perfectly good produce. Pushing forward, FRN and Hungry Harvest will work together to fight food waste and food insecurity across the country.

Hungry Harvest not only reduces waste, but also fights food insecurity through donations to hunger-fighting nonprofits and subsidized produce sales through their Produce in a SNAP initiative. These reduced cost community-markets provide access to fresh, affordable produce to families and individuals with limited geographic or financial access to food. To date, they have donated and subsidized more than one million pounds of fruits and vegetables to these hunger-solving organizations and initiatives.

Hungry Harvest is demonstrating their commitment to fight food insecurity on college campuses by offering a discount code to all current FRN students. This will help ensure that FRN students at universities and colleges across the nation have access to healthy, fresh produce at a discount. Hungry Harvest currently offers doorstep delivery throughout Maryland, Washington,

Evan Lutz, founder and CEO of Hungry Harvest, spoke about partnering with FRN: “It's an honor to officially partner with FRN in an effort to reduce food waste from multiple angles. The goals of our organizations couldn't be more aligned. It's exciting to get to work with the organization that helped us get started on this food waste-fighting journey!” FRN’s Manager of External Partnerships, Cassie Olovsson, also discussed the organizations’ similarities and dedication to fighting food waste and hunger: “We’re thrilled to expand this partnership with Hungry Harvest, our mission’s are so complementary and we’ve known each other for so long, it's about time we made it official. We’re excited to continue growing together as we fight food waste and hunger.” To date, Food Recovery Network and Hungry Harvest have combined to recover more than 18 million pounds of food, ensuring this food is feeding people and not landfills. This partnership and these initiatives are just the beginning of a fruitful and worthwhile relationship.

About Food Recovery Network
Food Recovery Network (FRN) unites and supports college student leaders in the fight against food waste and hunger in America. Since 2011, FRN students have recovered more than 3.9 million pounds of surplus food from their cafeterias and local restaurants. This food would have gone to waste, but because of their hard work it is feeding hungry Americans. Food Recovery Network has more than 200 college campus chapters in 44 states and the District of Columbia. For more information about Food Recovery Network, and to join our effort, visit www.foodrecoverynetwork.org. Follow us on Twitter @FoodRecovery and Instagram @FoodRecovery and like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FoodRecoveryNetwork.

About Hungry Harvest
Hungry Harvest is a farm to doorstep produce delivery company on a mission to eliminate food waste and end hunger. Since their inception in 2014, they have rescued over 15 million pounds of fresh but oddly-shaped or surplus fruits and vegetables from going to waste. Deliveries of this produce in weekly variety boxes support Hungry Harvest’s contribution of over 1 million pounds of reduced-cost or donated produce to hunger-solving organizations. Produce boxes are less expensive than grocery stores and offer the convenience of delivery for a nominal delivery fee. Hungry Harvest currently delivers in Maryland, Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Southern New Jersey, Northern Delaware, Northern Virginia, South Florida, Charlotte and The Triangle area in North Carolina, and the Detroit Metro Region in Michigan.

Recognized by Forbes Magazine, The James Beard Foundation, Food Recovery Network and the American Heart Association, Hungry Harvest has become one of the leading voices in the mission to eradicate food waste and hunger in this country.