

San Diego Food Bank – Press Release

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For immediate release

Nat'l drug stores' conference donates "three semi-trucks full" of products

San Diego, Calif. – July 2, 2008 – Exhibitors donated three semi-truck loads of food and sample consumer goods weighing 17,000 lbs at the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Marketplace Conference at the San Diego Convention Center on Tuesday, July 1.

Over 30 San Diego Food Bank volunteers helped the exhibitors load the goods onto three semi-trucks at the end of the convention for delivery to the San Diego Food Bank's warehouse in Miramar for distribution to low-income individuals, seniors and families throughout the county.

Exhibitors at the annual conference pooled a wide range of "front end" products available in chain pharmacies including health and hygiene products, cosmetics, food and beverages, household supplies and other consumer goods.

The San Diego Food Bank will distribute the products to the community through its 290 non-profit member agencies which include churches, food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, low-income daycare centers, senior centers, substance abuse rehabilitation programs, and disability programs within San Diego County. Over-the-counter medications will be distributed to San Diego family clinics.



SDFB team member Manuel Franco loads a box.

San Diego Food Bank Executive Director, J. Scofield "Scody" Hage said, "For fixed-income seniors and low-income families non-food products are incredibly expensive and often they have to do without. Simple items that people take for granted such as toiletries and cosmetics are beyond the reach of many low-income San Diegans who are struggling to survive.

This enormous donation from NACDS members couldn't have come at a better time given the recent increase in demand for assistance from San Diego families. On behalf of the San Diego Food Bank we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the exhibitors for their exceedingly generous gift."

“We thank NACDS’ associate member companies for their valuable contribution of these products,” said NACDS President and CEO Steven C. Anderson, IOM, CAE. “And we are grateful to the San Diego Food Bank for distributing our donations to those in need.”

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About San Diego Food Bank

Established in 1977, the San Diego Food Bank is a critical component to the welfare of San Diego County, providing food to people in need, advocating for the hungry and educating the public about hunger-related issues. Through a combination of government programs and partnerships with more than 260 San Diego County non-profit charities, SDFB acts as a central repository and distribution point for government and donated food. Funded by foundations, grants, USDA, corporations, sponsors and individual donors, SDFB distributes more than 10 million pounds of food annually to individuals, families and a network of non-profit organizations that work to alleviate hunger throughout the county. For more information, please visit www.sandiegofoodbank.org.

About the National Association of Chain Drug Stores

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) represents traditional drug stores, supermarkets and mass merchandisers with pharmacies. Its approximately 200 chain member companies include regional chains with a minimum of four stores to national companies. NACDS members also include approximately 1,000 suppliers of pharmacy and front-end products, and approximately 100 international members representing more than 30 countries. Chains operate more than 39,000 pharmacies, and employ a total of more than 2.7 million employees, including 114,000 pharmacists. They fill more than 2.4 billion prescriptions yearly, and have annual sales of over \$700 billion. For more information about NACDS, visit www.NACDS.org

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