**Area Boy Scouts Collecting Doorstep Food Donations February 3**

Help those who are hungry in our region by setting non-perishable food donations outside your door this Saturday morning, February 3 before 8:00 a.m.

That morning, as part of their annual Scouting for Food drive, Boy Scouts will fan out between 9 a.m. and noon throughout the East Valley – and across the state of Arizona – to collect food donations right from your doorstep. Thanks to the efforts of these scouts. Scouting for Food is probably one of the easiest ways for area residents to make a positive impact on the well-being of their neighbors in need. Just set your donation just outside your front door and the Scouts will take it from there.

Donations will benefit members of the Association of Arizona Food Banks (AAFB), including United Food Bank, which serves residents throughout the East Valley and eastern Arizona. According to AAFB, currently one in six Arizonans lack consistent access to a sufficient quantity of affordable and nutritious foods. This includes almost one in four Arizona children, giving our state one of the nation’s highest rates of food insecurity.

“The Scouting for Food drive helps restock our shelves after the holiday season,” noted Dave Richins, United Food Bank CEO. “The scouts who participate in this drive exemplify the Scout Oath 'To help other people at all times,' especially in their community."

All non-perishable food donations are appreciated. The goal of the drive is to collect a variety of nutritious foods to give hungry families more of what they need most. Suggested items can include protein-rich cans of chili, beans, soups, chicken and tuna, as well as plastic containers of peanut butter. Pasta sauce, whole grain pastas and cereals, evaporated milk, fruits and vegetables also are important components of well-rounded meals.