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## The Iowa Food Bank Association Receives \$100,000 Grant through Walmart Foundation Associate Choice Program

*Associate Choice program gives \$5 Million to nonprofits across the nation*

**Waterloo, Iowa, September 29, 2010** – The Iowa Food Bank Association has received \$100,000 from the Walmart Foundation as part of the Associate Choice Program, an online campaign where Walmart associates voted directly for a nonprofit to receive funding in their home state. The grant will help the Iowa Food Bank Association to provide over 500,000 pounds of grocery products to individuals in need. The basic need of food provided to individuals gives them food security in the present and hope for the future.

The Iowa Food Bank Association is an organization working to coordinate efforts to alleviate hunger by supporting Feeding America food banks that serve Iowa.

“Nearly 357,000 Iowans are food insecure, or do not have access to adequate food to support a healthy life. This grant will allow many of those Iowans to go to bed knowing where their next meal will come from,” said Jordan Vernoy, State Director of the Iowa Food Bank Association.

The six week voting program awarded \$5 million in grants to statewide organizations across the U.S. Of those funds, \$3.6 million are supporting hunger relief organizations based on votes from company associates. Walmart has recently announced \$2 billion commitment to help end hunger in America. Through the “Fighting Hunger Together” initiative, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation will give \$250 million in grants to hunger relief organizations and donate more than 1.1 billion pounds of food from Walmart stores, distribution centers and Sam’s Club locations, valued at \$1.75 billion.

“As a company, we operate globally but look for opportunities to give back locally,” said Todd Carr, Market Manager. “We’re pleased that Walmart associates chose to support the Iowa Food Bank Association.”

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The Iowa Food Bank Association is a collaborative effort of the eight food banks in Iowa that serve all of its 99 counties. Association members include: Food Bank of Iowa, HACAP Food Reservoir, Northeast Iowa Food Bank, River Bend Food Bank, Food Bank of the Heartland, Food Bank of Southern Iowa, Food Bank of Siouxland and St. Stephen’s Food Bank.

### **About Philanthropy at Walmart**

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are proud to support the charitable causes that are important to customers and associates in their own neighborhoods. The Walmart Foundation funds initiatives focused on education, workforce development, economic opportunity, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. From Feb. 1, 2009 through Jan. 31, 2010, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation gave more than \$512 million in cash and in-kind gifts globally, \$467 million of which was donated in the U.S. To learn more, visit [www.walmartfoundation.org](http://www.walmartfoundation.org).