



## MEDIA RELEASE

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**Tyson Foods Honors Ethel Shepherd as a “Hunger All-Star”**

*Ozarks Food Harvest receives 15 tons of food in celebration of Shepherd’s commitment to ending local hunger*

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Tyson Foods, Inc. (NYSE:TSN) will honor Ethel Shepherd of Mountain Grove, Mo. for her hunger relief efforts by selecting her as the next Tyson Hunger All-Star at Ozarks Food Harvest, on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 9:00 am. It is an honor that comes with a donation of more than 15 tons of Tyson protein products to Ozarks Food Harvest of Springfield.

Ethel’s volunteerism is an excellent example of how one person can make a difference in the fight against hunger. Ethel began fighting hunger 25 years ago in Mountain Grove. Ethel saw neighbors and friends who were struggling to make ends meet and began her volunteer service by distributing food and clothing from the basement of her church. As more people sought help at Ethel’s basement, she and another church member began driving to Springfield to the Ozarks Food Harvest food bank to pick up a supply of food. Ethel would drive every two months to load thousands of pounds of food to take back to Mountain Grove.

Ethel’s dedication has both assisted and inspired her friends and neighbors. As the word got out about her benevolence, people began coming to the doors of Ethel’s “Love Center” for help but Ethel could only manage so much in the small space. Her family and fellow church members answered the call. Donations of volunteer time, money and construction skills led to the 1998 completion of the Love Center.

Ethel is now 80 but still pursues her mission to end hunger in her community. Currently she runs the Love Center with eight volunteers and they serve more than 600 people each month. Even today, after 25 years of service with her pantry, Ethel makes the hour-long drive to Springfield to pick up the groceries her community needs.

“Protein is an essential portion of a healthy diet and the most needed donated item at Ozarks Food Harvest,” said Bart Brown, executive director of the food bank. “We cannot thank Tyson Foods enough for this very special gift. The food bank is honored to receive this donation in Ethel’s name.”

Shepherd was nominated as a Tyson Hunger All-Star through Tyson Foods’ hunger relief online site, <http://hungerrelief.tyson.com/>. Each month, winners are selected from nominations submitted through the Web site. The site has steadily become a place where visitors can read and learn the compelling stories of people’s commitment in the fight against hunger.

Transform Hunger into Hope™ at [ozarksfoodharvest.org](http://ozarksfoodharvest.org)

Ozarks Food Harvest | 615 N. Glenstone | Springfield, MO 65802 | P 417-865-3411 | F 417-865-0504



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“Ethel’s enthusiasm for helping neighbors who are hungry is inspiring,” said Ed Nicholson, director of community relations for Tyson Foods. “If each local community had volunteers who gave a fraction of what Ethel has for our nation’s hungry, I believe we could win in the fight against hunger in this country. We’re proud to honor Ethel as our next ‘Hunger All-Star’ and pleased to offer this donation of much-needed protein for the hungry in the Springfield community.”

Since 2000, Tyson Foods has been a leader in the fight against hunger. The company is actively engaged in food donation events and fundraising activities year-round to benefit those in need. The protein given by Tyson today will provide more than 120,000 meals and brings the company’s total in-kind donations since 2000 to more than 52 million pounds. This milestone equates to over 202 million meals donated to food banks and agencies serving local communities around the country. Last year alone, Tyson donated nearly 9 million pounds of protein to Feeding America (formerly known as America’s Second Harvest). For more information on how to get involved in the fight against hunger, click [here](#).

**Ozarks Food Harvest** is the only food bank in Southwest Missouri and provides food to a network of more than 350 agency partners such as shelters, soup kitchens, senior centers, pantries and day cares in 29 counties in the Ozarks. In addition to The Food Bank’s distribution of more than five million pounds each year, it has developed a number of innovative direct relief programs such as the Kids Cafe® after-school feeding program, the Weekend Backpack Program, the Club F.U.N.™ nutritional education program and the new Mobile Food Pantry™. Ozarks Food Harvest also received the inaugural Economic Impact Nonprofit of the Year Award in recognition of the \$7.5 million infused into southwest Missouri’s regional economy. For more information visit [www.ozarksfoodharvest.org](http://www.ozarksfoodharvest.org).

**Tyson Foods, Inc. [NYSE: TSN]**, founded in 1935 with headquarters in Springdale, Ark., is the world’s largest processor and marketer of chicken, beef, and pork, the second-largest food production company in the Fortune 500 and a member of the S&P 500. The company produces a wide variety of protein-based and prepared food products and is the recognized market leader in the retail and foodservice markets it serves. Tyson provides products and service to customers throughout the United States and more than 80 countries. The company has approximately 104,000 Team Members employed at more than 300 facilities and offices in the United States and around the world. Through its Core Values, Code of Conduct and Team Member Bill of Rights, Tyson strives to operate with integrity and trust and is committed to creating value for its shareholders, customers and Team Members. The company also strives to be faith-friendly, provide a safe work environment and serve as stewards of the animals, land and environment entrusted to it. Visit [www.tyson.com](http://www.tyson.com) for more details.

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