



1685 Jaggie Fox Way
Lexington, KY 40511
859-255-6592
www.godspantry.org

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 12, 2008

CONTACT:
Mandy Brajuha, God's Pantry Food Bank
(859) 288-5324 or mandy@godspantry.org

God's Pantry Food Bank Receives \$10,000 Grant from Jackson Curlin for Kids Fund

LEXINGTON, Ky. God's Pantry Food Bank has received a \$10,000 grant for children's programming from the Jackson Curlin for Kids Fund, a charity funded by the winnings of Kentucky-bred racehorse Curlin, the 2007 Horse of the Year.

Curlin's owners, Jess Jackson, founder of Kendall-Jackson Wines, and his wife Barbara Banke, created the charity to share Curlin's success with children in Kentucky. Yesterday, the Blue Grass Community Foundation, which holds and manages the fund, announced \$67,000 of funding for 15 charities that specifically help children in Lexington.

"Curlin is a magnificent horse," Banke said. "In his honor, we established the Jackson Curlin for Kids Fund. Its purpose is to make a difference in the lives of children where Curlin runs or trains by sharing a portion of his earnings with local children's charities."

God's Pantry Food Bank will use the funding for its Kids Cafe program. Kids Cafe is a program of America's Second Harvest – the Nation's Food Bank Network specifically designed to serve an evening meal to children at risk of hunger. Children visiting the sites receive help with homework, nutrition information and a meal before they head home for the night. God's Pantry Food Bank's Kids Cafe program provided more than 22,400 meals to children in three counties last fiscal year.

"We are extremely grateful for this generous contribution," God's Pantry Food Bank CEO Marian Guinn said. "Childhood hunger is an epidemic. More than 200,000 Kentucky children wake up each morning not knowing where they will find their next meal. Through our Kids Cafe programs, we are working hard to remedy the problem."

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The mission of God's Pantry Food Bank is to reduce hunger in Kentucky through community cooperation making the best possible use of all available resources. We serve 49 counties of central and eastern Kentucky and distribute \$10 worth of food for every \$1 donated. Last year God's Pantry Food Bank and its member agencies distributed more than 13 million pounds of groceries to more than 159,000 individuals. God's Pantry Food Bank is a member of America's Second Harvest, the Nation's Food Bank Network. Through community partnerships and distribution of food to 50,000 agencies, America's Second Harvest collectively works to assure that people in need have access to a balanced diet. For more information visit us at <http://www.godspantry.org/> or www.secondharvest.org/