



PRESS RELEASE

GCCSA Hosts Fifth Annual Hunger Action Month Event

October 22, 2020

Whataburger and Houston Texans donate life-sustaining funds to the Houston Food Bank in annual fundraiser

HOUSTON, Texas (October 22, 2020) – On Tuesday, November 10, Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc. (GCCSA) will again host the Hunger Action Month annual giving event and presentation. Texas favorites Whataburger and the Houston Texans have teamed up to combat hunger in Greater Houston and will present their impactful contribution to Houston Food Bank, following their fifth annual Hunger Action Month fundraiser.

Hunger Action Month highlights the millions of families who face hunger on a regular basis. Many of these families are experiencing food insecurity for the first time due to the ongoing pandemic. On average, 1 in 6 adults in Houston struggle with hunger, with thousands of children and elders going to bed with empty bellies on any given night. During these past 8+ months of coping with the negative impacts of the novel coronavirus, the number of food insecure adults and children has doubled.

The GCCSA Food Pantry operates its Curbside Pantry service for individuals and families (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9am – 1pm), providing a safe option for those in need to acquire a precious commodity – groceries. “We find ourselves in the most uncertain of times,” said Dr. Jonita Reynolds, chief executive officer of GCCSA.

“Families who were previously experiencing income inequality and food insecurity find their vulnerability even more pronounced. GCCSA, Inc. is undaunted, and will provide every opportunity available to make daily living less stressful. Partnerships with community-minded organizations such as Houston Food Bank, Houston Texans and Whataburger amplify our collective promise to assist our under-resourced neighbors.”

Prior Hunger Action Month events have featured special guests that include Houston Texans Cheerleaders and Ambassadors Cecil Shorts and current player Darren Fells. Volunteers will distribute food from Houston Food Bank’s mobile truck and Whataburger at 9:30 a.m. on November 10 in front of the GCCSA Curbside Pantry, located at 9320 Kirby Drive, Houston, Texas 77054.

The past four years has seen the Houston community raise at least \$563,581, with \$125,905 being presented to Houston Food Bank in 2019. Each \$1 donated to Houston Food Bank will provide three meals to those in need of food assistance.

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Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc.

A Community Action Agency

- WHO:** Whataburger Restaurants LLC, Houston Texans and Houston Food Bank
- WHAT:** Whataburger and Houston Texans make donation to Houston Food Bank following Hunger Action Month fundraiser
- WHEN:** Tuesday, Nov. 10
9:30 a.m. breakfast
10 a.m. presentation
- WHERE:** Gulf Coast Community Service Association Inc, 9320 Kirby Drive, Houston

ABOUT [GULF COAST COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION, INC.](#):

As Harris County's Community Action Agency, the purpose of Gulf Coast Community Services Association, Inc. (GCCSA) is to strengthen the educational, social and economic well-being of individuals and families as they move toward economic independence and self-sufficiency. Founded in 1965, GCCSA provides diverse programs designed to eliminate the inhibitive conditions of the under-served and un-served populations of Harris County. Through programs such as Head Start/ Early Head Start, Rent and Electricity Assistance, Food Pantry, Adult Literacy and Education, and Vocational Training and Education Scholarships, GCCSA is able to assist families in earning a living wage, individuals in the advancement of their education, and communities in gaining economic security. To learn more about GCCSA's programs and services, visit us online: [Website](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) - @TheGCCSA.

The Corporate office and all Head Start/Early Head Start Centers are closed to the public at this time.

ABOUT [HOUSTON TEXANS FOUNDATION](#):

The Houston Texans Foundation was founded in 2002 with a mission of being Champions for Youth. The Foundation believes that youth are the champions of our future, and therefore it is dedicated to enhancing their quality of life. Since 2002, more than \$30 million has been raised through our annual fundraising events, disaster response programs, our annual United Way campaign and our partnership with non-profit organizations on Texans game day. Through fundraising efforts, the Foundation supports and administers programs in education, character development and health and fitness to empower the next generation of Texans. The Foundation has aligned with three strategic community partners; the Houston Texans YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Houston and the Houston Food Bank, and the majority of their support goes to these three organizations through monetary donations, programming and volunteerism. The Houston Texans Foundation is committed to inspiring positive change within the Houston community.

ABOUT [HOUSTON FOOD BANK](#):

The Houston Food Bank is a solution to both hunger and food waste. In the year following Hurricane Harvey the Food Bank distributed 122 million nutritious meals through its network of 1,500 community partners, including food pantries, soup kitchens, social service providers, and schools in southeast Texas. We distribute fresh produce, meat and nonperishables from our warehouse at 535 Portwall, where we also prepare nutritious hot meals for kids in our new state-of-the-art Keegan Kitchen. We work with grocery stores and growers to rescue food before it reaches landfills with a focus on fresh healthy food. Additional community services include nutrition education and SNAP application assistance. We feed hungry people in our 18-county service area alongside our partner food banks in Montgomery County, Galveston and Brazos Valley. The Houston Food Bank,



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founded in 1982, is a certified member of Feeding America, the nation's food bank network, with a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Visit us online: [Website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Youtube](#) and Snapchat, @houstonfoodbank.

ABOUT [WHATABURGER](#):

Whataburger has focused on its fresh, made-to-order burgers and friendly customer service since 1950 when Harmon Dobson opened the first Whataburger as a small roadside burger stand in Corpus Christi, Texas. Dobson gave his restaurant a name he hoped to hear customers say every time they took a bite of his made-to-order burgers: "What a burger!" Within the first week, people lined up around the block for his 25 cent, 100 percent beef burgers served on five-inch buns. Today, the company is headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, with more than 820 locations in 10 states with sales of more than \$2 billion annually.

Check out the company on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and follow them on Snapchat, @WhataburgerLife. Stay updated on the latest Whataburger news at [What's Cookin'](#) and visit [Whataburger.com](#) for more information.

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