



St. Mary's  
Food Bank  
ALLIANCE

2831 N. 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue • Phoenix, AZ 85009 • (602) 352-3640 • Fax (602) 352-3659

www.FirstFoodBank.org

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Melody Kelly (602) 343-3160

Cell: (602) 621-0526

[mlkelly@FirstFoodBank.org](mailto:mlkelly@FirstFoodBank.org)

---

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2008

## FRESH AND EASY KEEPS TRUE TO ITS NAME – MAKES DONATIONS TO FOOD BANK

PHOENIX – St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance knows that when Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Markets guarantee fresh foods to their customers, they are staying true to their name. Since December 2007, the new grocery market has been donating fresh product to the Food Bank and making it easy for the organization to serve its clients.

Fresh & Easy, owned by UK-based Tesco, is donating produce, meat, dairy and other fresh items to the Food Bank. These are nutritious items the Food Bank is always anxious to receive to provide those in need with a healthy balanced diet. Every day, the Food Bank picks up food from 17 Fresh & Easy locations. And, the food is already prepackaged in smaller quantities so it makes it easy for the fresh items to be placed into box programs or to be used at distributions.

"This partnership is exciting for us," says Terry Shannon, President and CEO of the Food Bank. "The product we are receiving is such that we are able to expand our strategies for serving the community, providing families with fresh foods."

In addition to donating wonderful food, Fresh & Easy employees donated their time to the Food Bank in February. While here, 13 staff, including District Manager Jeff Lang and Regional Manager Al O'Donnell, helped to sort the foods the company donated, making it ready for distribution to families in need.

~more~

“We are committed to being a good neighbor and giving back to the community,” said Roberto Munoz, Neighborhood Affairs Manager. “Our relationship with St. Mary’s Food Bank is an important one for us and we look forward to continuing this partnership.”

At a time when food bank’s across the country are redefining their strategies for getting food into their facilities to meet the needs of communities feeling the economic crunch, St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance views its new partnership with Fresh & Easy as fortunate and looks forward to working with the growing grocery chain into the future.

####

For statistics on poverty and hunger, media inquiries, photos or interview requests, please contact Melody Kelly at (602) 343-3160, (602) 621-0526 or [mlkelly@firstfoodbank.org](mailto:mlkelly@firstfoodbank.org).

**ST. MARY’S FOOD BANK ALLIANCE:** St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance, the world’s first food bank, is a non-sectarian, nonprofit organization that alleviates hunger by efficiently gathering and distributing food to 675 sites that serve the hungry. Serving 13 of Arizona’s 15 counties, the organization is committed to volunteerism, building community relationships, and improving the quality of life for Arizonans in need. During Fiscal Year 2006-2007, the Food Bank distributed 51.5 million pounds of food to families and individuals, provided enough food for 200,000 meals every day, and garnered more than 230,000 volunteer service hours. Web site: [www.FirstFoodBank.org](http://www.FirstFoodBank.org), Phone: 602-352-3640.

**FRESH & EASY NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET:** Fresh & Easy currently has 58 grocery markets open throughout Southern California, Arizona and Nevada. The company is a subsidiary of U.K.-based Tesco, one of the world’s largest international retailers, which has invested \$2 billion over five years in Fresh & Easy.

At roughly 10,000 square feet, Fresh & Easy markets are smaller than the typical supermarket to give customers a faster, easier shopping experience. In addition to fresh, prepared meals and produce, Fresh & Easy offers everyone’s favorite national brand products and household items, all at everyday low prices.

Fresh & Easy brand products have no artificial colors or flavors, no added trans fats, and only use preservatives where absolutely necessary. The company also offers a range of national brands and authentic products, as well as fresh, prepared meals.

Each store employs approximately 20 to 30 people. All Fresh & Easy employees work a minimum of 20 hours per week, which ensures everyone is eligible for comprehensive and affordable health care. Entry-level positions start at \$9 an hour in Arizona and offer a quarterly bonus of up to 10%.

More information regarding Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market can be found at [www.freshandeasy.com](http://www.freshandeasy.com).