



CONTACT:

Marcia Wells

Communications Director

Mid-South Food Bank

901.405.0073

The Reverend Carla Meisterman

Pastor/Head of Staff

Balmoral Presbyterian Church

901.235.1014

Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein

Director, Planning, Community Relations

Memphis Jewish Federation

901- 767-7100

FACT SHEET

- **MISSION STATEMENT:**

A Taste of Hunger is a broad-based initiative to educate, motivate, and engage our community in a hands-on effort to alleviate hunger. A Taste of Hunger will dramatize the disparity in food security in our city and empower individuals and organizations to comprehend and combat hunger in Memphis.

- *A Taste of Hunger* event will be convened by a consortium seeking to raise awareness about hunger in our city, illuminate opportunities already underway to combat hunger, identify connections and potential for alliances, and release the power of our collective impact.

- *A Taste of Hunger* is a collaborative effort of Balmoral Presbyterian Church, Center for Transforming Communities, Memphis Jewish Federation, Mid-South Food Bank, MIFA, Seedco and representatives of Rhodes College.

- **Target Audience:**

Our target audience are leaders and key connectors in our community who have substantial reach to engage and motivate a large cross section of our community to act in both small ways (i.e., food pantry volunteer) and big ways (policy changes: i.e., increase Commodity Food Distribution through TEFAP - The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), a U.S. government program that provides food at no cost to low-income Americans in need of short-term hunger relief)

- **Key Event:** A Taste of Hunger Banquet – *a dramatized event to end hunger*

Sunday, November 4, 2012

5:30pm to 7:30pm

Anshei Sphard Beth El Emeth Congregation “ASBEE”

120 East Yates N.

Memphis, TN. 38120

901-682-1611

- Master of Ceremonies: Joe Birch, Anchor
WMC-TV 5 Memphis, TN.
- Objectives for the evening:
 - Host an interactive and reflective experience of disparity in food security
 - Educate about the root causes of hunger and poverty
 - Provide resources for moving from awareness to action
 - Inspire a commitment in each attendee to use their reach and influence to motivate others to action
- Each participant will leave the event equipped to become change agents in the community. A *Taste of Hunger Resource Guide* will be provided on a flash drive for each participant to take with them. A *Taste of Hunger Resource Guide* will include Statistics, Stories and Solutions for alleviating hunger in our community.
- A *Taste of Hunger* Resource Guide will include information such as:
Stories of people who are food insecure and how they are being helped in Memphis, List of Community Food pantries, Information on what to do if someone identifies themselves as hungry at churches, mosques or synagogues, Resources for the community that people can employ to help combat hunger.
- During the *A Taste of Hunger* event, facilitators will guide guests to reflect on the root causes of hunger and poverty and on the changes they hope to make in the community as a result of what they learned. The event is not a fundraiser, but is intended to raise awareness, ignite interest and inspire action.
- A Taste of Hunger is the beginning of an on-going initiative, including an annual banquet event. The banquet event will be an experience that gives people a different perspective on hunger issues. It is meant to be an interactive and reflective experience designed to motivate people to do something to help.
- After the A Taste of Hunger banquet event, commitment cards that each participant will be asked to fill out during the event, will be collated into areas of action. Action plans will be developed and participants will be engaged to begin work as thought partners and change agents. A Speaker's Bureau will be developed to take the message of Food Insecurity to organizations in our community and inspire volunteer engagement in the effort to combat hunger.
- Participating financial sponsors at this time:
Balmoral Presbyterian Church
Memphis Jewish Federation
The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Members of Balmoral Presbyterian Church, Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Germantown Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Holy Communion Episcopal Church, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Kingsway Christian Church, Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Mullins United Methodist Church, Second Baptist Church, and Temple Israel.
The Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth Congregation, Baron Hirsch Congregation, Beth Sholom Synagogue, Temple Israel

- **PLANNING GROUP:**

Balmoral Presbyterian Church The Rev. Carla Hubbard Meisterman, Pastor/Head of Staff
<http://www.balmoralpc.com/>

Center for Transforming Communities Amy Moritz, Director
<http://www.centerfortransformingcommunities.org/>

Memphis Jewish Federation Bluma Zuckerbrot –Finkelstein, Director Planning, Community Relations
<http://www.memjfed.org/>

Mid-South Food Bank Marcia Wells, Communications Director
<http://www.midsouthfoodbank.org/>

MIFA Linda Marks, Interfaith Relations Officer
<http://www.mifa.org/>

Rhodes College The Rev. Dr. Kendra Hotz, Assistant Professor
<http://www.rhodes.edu/>

Seedco Cindy Shainberg, Senior Program Associate
<http://www.seedco.org/>