



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2010

Media Contact: Kathie Monroe,
949-653-2900; KathieM@feedoc.org

Local Companies Come Together to Feed Orange County's Hungry
Bank of America and Boeing donate time and dollars to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank

Irvine, CA – April 17, 2010 To celebrate their recent grant partnership, an army of Bank of America and Boeing employees dug in as volunteer harvesters at Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County's Incredible Edible Park. The companies collaborated to fund \$55,000 for the new UPS Roadnet routing software that will significantly improve Second Harvest's ability to pick-up and distribute surplus food to Orange County's needy population.

Nearly 75 volunteers from both companies spent the morning planting and harvesting a variety of crops. Second Harvest will distribute the harvested produce to help feed the hungry in Orange County.

Bank of America and Boeing are longstanding supporters of food banks and hunger relief efforts across the United States. Locally, both Bank of America and Boeing have been extremely generous in their support of Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County, including monetary donations, food drives, and volunteer hours.

"As the economic downturn impacts families, local nonprofits like Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County are more important than ever in providing critical services to struggling populations. That is why Bank of America has been capitalizing Orange County's nonprofits that provide emergency hunger and other basic safety net services," said Shari Battle, Orange County market manager, Bank of America. "By leveraging resources with leading Orange County companies like Boeing, we can help expand Second Harvest's effectiveness on the food production side and delivery sides."

"This is a great example of donor organizations coming together in order to help our nonprofit partners perform their mission more effectively," said Kevin Ober, Health and Human Services community investor for Boeing.

"Bank of America and Boeing have both been tremendous partners in our efforts to eliminate hunger in Orange County," said Joe Schoeningh, Director of Second Food Bank of Orange County. "This recent collaboration on their part will enable us to continue expanding our Grocery and Food Rescue Programs, which are vital to providing fresh, nutritious food products to supplement the non-perishable items we distribute to needy families here in Orange County."

Charles Gideon, a Grocery Rescue driver for Second Harvest explained that the new routing system technology saves him enough time on his daily route to add two more pick-ups and deliveries.

-- more --



Approximately one in six Orange County residents are at risk of going hungry each month and the current economic climate has left seniors, children and the working poor particularly vulnerable. The demand for food assistance has increased by an average of 35% over the past year. Both Grocery Rescue and the Incredible Edible Park's OC Harvest Program are pivotal in providing fresh, nutritious food to Orange County residents in need of food assistance.

About Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County

Since 1983, Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County has provided more than 265 million pounds of safe and nutritious surplus food to now over 450 charitable non-profit organizations throughout Orange County. The Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County is a certified Affiliate Member of Feeding America. For more information about Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County or to learn how to help, visit www.feedoc.org.

###