

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2008 Gleaning Program to Begin April 26 with Kick-Off Glean and Barbecue at San Benito High School

Ag Against Hunger will launch its 2008 gleaning program on April 26 at San Benito High School. Volunteers will meet at the San Benito High School agricultural classroom building at 8:30 a.m., and then caravan to a local field to harvest produce. Following the glean volunteers, donors, and supporters will meet back at San Benito High School's Ag Building for a barbecue at 11:30 a.m. by the Central Coast Young Farmers and Ranchers and sponsored by Brigantino Irrigation.

This event will kick-off Ag Against Hunger's gleaning season, extending every other Saturday until November. All who would like to glean (ages 7 and up) are welcome.

Ag Against Hunger's gleaning program, which runs from April through November, is a program which gives local community members an opportunity to help feed those in need and learn about local agriculture. After harvest, there is an abundance of high-quality, marketable produce left in the field. Our gleaning program coordinates the picking of these crops left after commercial harvest and distributes the produce to local food banks and pantries, including Community Pantry of San Benito County.

In 2007 Ag Against Hunger gleaned more than 77,000 pounds of locally grown produce with the help of over 200 volunteers. To learn more about our gleaning program and view the 2008 Gleaning Calendar, visit <http://www.agagainsthunger.org/help2.htm>.

Ag Against Hunger collects surplus produce from over 50 tri-county grower-shippers and distributes it to food banks throughout the West Coast. The produce is distributed in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties first, where it feeds over 75,000 low-income people each month through local food banks working with over 240 agencies. Find out more at www.agagainsthunger.org.

Ag Against Hunger Kick-Off Gleaning Event

When: Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. with BBQ to follow at 11:30 a.m.

Where: Meet at San Benito High School and caravan to local fields. San Benito High School is located at 1220 Monterey St. and we will be meeting at the Agriculture Building, located at the corner of Nash and Monterey Streets. Look for the Ag Against Hunger banner there!

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