HUNGER STUDY FACTS

Hunger in America 2010, released by Food Gatherers and Feeding America, is the first research study to capture the significant connection between the recent economic downturn and an increased need for emergency food assistance.

- Food Gatherers is part of Feeding America—the nation’s food bank network. Feeding America provides food for 37 million people a year including nearly 14 million children and nearly 3 million seniors.

- In Washtenaw County, more than 43,900 people—including more than 14,000 children and 6,500 seniors—receive food each year through Food Gatherers’ network of emergency food pantries and meal sites.

- As many as 138% more people sought emergency food assistance from Food Gatherers’ network in 2010 than in 2006.

- 88% of food distributed by emergency food pantries in Washtenaw County is obtained from Food Gatherers.

- Tough choices: 39% of client households accessing emergency food assistance have to choose between paying for their rent or mortgage and food.

- The percent of households with seniors experiencing hunger, more than doubled since 2006.

- Next steps: Food Gatherers will lead and collaborate on initiatives that help ensure easy access for clients to food stamps, healthier food choices, and support for sustainable community garden projects.

There is a role for everyone to play in the fight against hunger! Advocate, donate, or volunteer!

For a complete copy of the Hunger Study findings and our Food Security Plan, please visit www.foodgatherers.org or follow our news updates on Facebook or Twitter http://twitter.com/CarlSuperCarrot.