FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



DATE: December 8, 2015

Greene County Partners with Ozarks Food Harvest to Help "Transform Hunger Into Hope"

Springfield, MO – Greene County is helping to "Transform Hunger Into Hope" this holiday season by partnering with Ozarks Food Harvest. Collection bins have been strategically placed around the Greene County government campus, including the Commission building, the first floor of the Judicial Building, the first floor of the Historic Courthouse, the Public Safety Center and the Highway Department. Employees and visitors to these government buildings are encouraged to share their good will by making a donation.

Non-perishable items to donate include canned meats, peanut butter, beans, soups, stews, boxed meals, rice, pasta, canned fruits or vegetables, and cereal. Ozarks Food Harvest also accepts paper products and personal hygiene items.

One out of every four Ozarks residents is served by Ozarks Food Harvest, the only food bank in southwest Missouri. According to the nation's food bank network *Feeding America*, sixteen percent of people in southwest Missouri are "food insecure," meaning they don't know where their next meal is coming from.

"We are concerned about those in our community who may not have access to essential food and hygiene items, and as we enter the holiday season, we want to focus our giving on those who need it most." said Greene County Presiding Commissioner Bob Cirtin. "Ozarks Food Harvest offers an incredible service to our community by serving more than 200 hunger-relief organizations across the Ozarks. We are excited to play a role in their simple, yet powerful mission - to "Transform Hunger Into Hope"."

Donations will be collected until Monday, December 21.

To learn more Ozarks Food Harvest, visit www.ozarksfoodharvest.org.

For additional information, contact Bob Cirtin, Greene County Presiding Commissioner, at 417-868-4112 or via email at bcirtin@greenecountymo.gov.