

## \$2 billion toward ending hunger in America

Written by  
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Walmart and the Walmart Foundation last week announced a \$2 billion cash and in-kind commitment stepping up their efforts to help end hunger in America, said Margaret McKenna, president, The Walmart Foundation.

According to a November 2009 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) report, hunger rates in the U.S. are the highest since 1995 with nearly 15 percent of households lacking access to an adequate supply of nutritious food.

President Obama has referred to hunger as a problem “we can solve together.”

The new initiative, “Fighting Hunger Together,” includes four key components:

- Donating more than 1.1 billion pounds of food from Walmart stores, distribution centers and Sam’s Club locations, valued at \$1.75 billion;

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- Grants totaling \$250 million to support hunger relief organizations at the national, state and local levels;
- Mobilizing Walmart associates and customers. For example, Walmart's logistics team will lend their expertise to help food banks become more efficient in their operations; and
- Collaboration with government, food manufacturers and other corporations that are fighting hunger to increase impact and reach a greater number of families in need.