MEDIA RELEASE

Media release for Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance. For immediate use.
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National Conference of State Legislatures Adds AR Leader to National Partnership

LITTLE ROCK, AR (May 4, 2015)– Rep. Charlotte Vining Douglas (District 75) has been named to the Hunger Partnership of the National Conference of State Legislatures. Gilberto Soria Mendoza, Policy Specialist at the NCSL, said Rep. Douglas was chosen for this important position because of her work in AR. Mendoza said "Rep. Douglas has served as the Co-Chair of the AR Legislative Hunger Caucus for 3 years, and has been a leader in the effort to engage more legislators. She works tirelessly on a number of issues concerning her district, and we are honored to have her join the Hunger Partnership." As part of Rep. Douglas's orientation, she accompanied other national leaders to New Orleans to NCSL'S Hunger Partnership meeting. At the meeting, Rep. Douglas visited a distribution center and a school, and exchanged ideas with regional and national leaders.

"Hunger is one piece of a nationwide matrix of issues that involve education, health, the economy and crime. In the past, we have put all of these issues in silos and treated them separately. What we now know is that these issues overlap and are intertwined, "said Rep. Douglas. "This hope for an improved quality of life is why I join with other legislators, business leaders, researchers and volunteers from around the country to discover best practices to bring back to our states for implementation," continued Douglas.

The Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, liaison to the AR Legislative Hunger Caucus, is the statewide umbrella organization for Feeding America food banks, plus hundreds of pantries, state agencies, businesses and individuals concerned with hunger. Executive Director Kathy Webb said "Rep. Douglas visits pantries, raises money, attends Breakfast in the Classroom activities, speaks on behalf of the Legislative Hunger Caucus, and rallies other legislators to this issue. We are proud of her for being chosen as a leader on the national stage."

Rep. Douglas serves on the House Education Committee, Joint Budget, Joint Energy and House State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee. She is the Assistant Pro Tem, District 3. Douglas is a retired teacher, a veteran Sunday school teacher and lives in Alma.

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About The Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance

Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, lead partner in Arkansas for the No Kid Hungry campaign, is a non-profit collaborative network of more than 480 hunger relief organizations across Arkansas. Our founding members include the Arkansas Foodbank in Little Rock, the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas in Jonesboro, Harvest Texarkana Regional Food Bank in Texarkana, Food Bank of North Central Arkansas in Norfork, Northwest Arkansas Food Bank in Bethel Heights and River Valley Regional Food Bank in Fort Smith. The Alliance is dedicated to reducing hunger through direct relief, education and advocacy. We invite you to visit www.ARhungeralliance.org for details on hunger relief programs, donor and volunteer opportunities.