



Press release for Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance. For immediate release.  
For more information contact Nancy Conley, Communications Director at [nconley@arhungeralliance.org](mailto:nconley@arhungeralliance.org)

## **Kathy Webb Named Share Our Strength Advocate of the Year**

LITTLE ROCK, AR (June 3, 2013)—In a ceremony held at the annual Share Our Strength Conference of Leaders in Washington D.C., Kathy Webb, executive director of the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, was presented with the group's Advocate of the Year award.

Through her advocacy and support of the No Kid Hungry campaign, Kathy has demonstrated her commitment to ending hunger, developing innovations to further our work in the field, and mobilizing new activists to join our cause, doing it all with enthusiasm and limitless energy. Kathy has leveraged key relationships with stakeholders and non-profit partners in her community to help us further align our access and education priorities, serving as a standout among our state partners for her cross-program leadership. For example, Kathy has worked with the Arkansas Department of Human Services, which administers Afterschool and Summer meals, to build bridges and advance opportunities to offer a Cooking Matters training for child care providers who utilize CACFP.

Kathy has also worked closely with the Office of Governor Mike Beebe to ensure programs like summer meals and school breakfast are a policy priority. Her leadership helped to ensure a successful partnership between the Governor's Office, DHS, and the Arkansas No Kid Hungry campaign to increase the number of summer meals sites across the state and streamline the process which was enacted this year to create a pilot program to provide additional funding for schools to serve alternative breakfast models across the state. Kathy's work on this front has helped to ensure that \$500K will be available for high-need schools in Arkansas so that they can expand their breakfast service universally.

In support of Cooking Matters programming in Arkansas, Kathy has built relationships across her state to further these programs, including building relationships with key providers including the Arkansas Department of Human Services, the Arkansas Children's Hospital, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, and Food Bank of North Central Arkansas.

"Kathy isn't afraid to roll up her sleeves and get involved in every aspect of the access and education work," commented Jen Jinks, National Campaign Director for Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Campaign. "She is constantly talking to key individuals at all hours of the day, whether in a church meeting, a dinner line, or a conference coffee break," continued Jinks. "What is unique about Kathy is not that she knows everyone in the state, but that time and time again she engages each person, where they are, in specific ways to make No Kid Hungry a priority for other individuals, organizations, or corporations."

*The Advocate of the Year award is presented to an individual who serves as a tireless champion on Share Our Strength's behalf and who effectively communicates Share Our Strength's mission and messages, is an effective spokesperson and a strong volunteer recruiter for various Share Our Strength platforms. The award recognizes individuals who are deeply committed to bringing about positive change in their community and their actions reflect Share Our Strength's core values.*

X X X

**About The Alliance**

Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance is a non-profit collaborative network of more than 250 hunger relief organizations across Arkansas including 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 Norfolk, Northwest Arkansas Food Bank in Bethel Heights and River Valley Regional Food Bank in Fort Smith who are dedicated to reducing hunger through direct relief, education and advocacy. We invite you to visit [www.ARhungeralliance.org](http://www.ARhungeralliance.org) for details on hunger relief programs and volunteer opportunities.

**About SHARE OUR STRENGTH'S NO KID HUNGRY CAMPAIGN**

No child should grow up hungry in America, but one in five children struggles with hunger. Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry<sup>®</sup> campaign is ending childhood hunger in America by ensuring all children get the healthy food they need, every day. The No Kid Hungry campaign connects kids in need to effective nutrition programs like school breakfast and summer meals and teaches low-income families to cook healthy, affordable meals through Cooking Matters. This work is accomplished through the No Kid Hungry network, made up of private citizens, public officials, nonprofits, business leaders and others providing innovative hunger solutions in their communities. Join us at [NoKidHungry.org](http://NoKidHungry.org).