



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOOD 4 LESS, RALPHS DONATE \$105,000 TO LACCD TO HELP COMBAT STUDENT HUNGER ISSUES

The grocery store companies make significant donation as part of corporate philanthropic efforts during September, nationally recognized as Hunger Action Month.

LOS ANGELES—The fight against hunger and food insecurity issues experienced by students within the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) received some significant help thanks to the philanthropic efforts of Food 4 Less and Ralphs grocery stores which donated \$105,000.00 to the Foundation for the Los Angeles Community Colleges.

“The generosity shown by Food 4 Less and Ralphs is outstanding. Food insecurity by our college students is a serious issue and we have a moral obligation to help them so that they don’t have to make a choice between pursuing their higher education goals and having enough food to eat,” LACCD Board of Trustees President Andra Hoffman said.

“While 1 in 8 Americans struggle with hunger, 40 percent of the food produced in the U.S. is thrown away,” said Bryan Kalentbach, President of Food 4 Less. “We have the scale and committed Associates to do something about this absurdity. Our Zero Hunger | Zero Waste social impact plan is our commitment to ending hunger in our communities and eliminating waste across our company by 2025.”

“Ralphs is committed to ending hunger in the communities we serve through food donations and monetary support of hunger relief organizations,” said Mike Murphy, President, Ralphs Grocery. “With more than 6 million meals donated in 2018 and another 4.3 million donated so far this year, Ralphs is striving to deliver solutions to eliminate food insecurity for LACCD students.”

The money will be used by the Foundation to distribute funds to all nine colleges to help students who are facing emergency food issues, according to Michael Fuller, Director of Institutional Advancement for LACCD. Food 4 Less and Ralphs, part of the Kroeger, jointly presented the check to the Foundation during a special ceremony Sept. 4, 2019 at Los Angeles Trade-Technical College.

While tuition at community colleges is now free for the first two years, for too many students, the associated costs of pursuing higher education remain a major barrier to success, including textbooks, school supplies, transportation, and the most basic of needs: food.

[Nearly half of California’s 2.1 million community college students](#) experienced food insecurity in the past year. Over 40 percent of community college students in California [reported skipping meals](#) because they could not afford to eat. Solutions to this situation must be found, including generous corporate philanthropy as shown by Food 4 Less and Ralphs.

Food 4 Less

Food 4 Less is dedicated to our purpose: to Feed the Human Spirit™. Food 4 Less/Foods Co is more than 11,000 associates serving customers in 129 price-impact, warehouse-format supermarkets under the banners Food 4 Less in Southern California, Illinois and Indiana, and Foods Co in Central and Northern California. From the company’s headquarters in Los Angeles County, Food 4 Less is a recognized leader in community service and giving. Last year, the company contributed more than \$4 million to support

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education, hunger relief, women’s health and local nonprofit organizations in the communities served by the company’s stores. Food 4 Less is a subsidiary of The Kroger Co., (NYSE:KR), one of the world’s largest retailers, based in Cincinnati, Ohio. For more information about Food 4 Less/Foods Co, please visit our websites at www.food4less.com and www.foodsco.com.

Ralphs

Ralphs Grocery Company is dedicated to our purpose: to Feed the Human Spirit™. We are more than 18,000 associates serving customers in 190 supermarkets across Southern California. From the company’s headquarters in Los Angeles County, Ralphs is a recognized leader in community service and giving. Last year, the company contributed more than \$6 million to support education, hunger relief, women’s health and local nonprofit organizations in the communities served by the company’s stores. Ralphs is a subsidiary of The Kroger Co., (NYSE:KR), one of the world’s largest retailers, based in Cincinnati, Ohio. For more about Ralphs, please visit our website at www.ralphs.com.



The Los Angeles Community College District

LACCD (www.laccd.edu) is the nation’s largest community college district, educating about 230,000 full- and part-time students annually at its nine colleges that serve the residents of more than 36 cities and communities from 900 square miles of Los Angeles County. Since 1969, the District has been providing important learning pathways for students seeking transfer to four-year colleges or universities, two-year degrees and/or professional certificated training. Follow us on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/LACCD>, @LACCD, on Twitter, <https://twitter.com/laccd> @laccd and Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/laccd_edu/, laccd_edu.

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