

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 14, 2010

Interfaith Community Services

2820 W. Ina Road, Tucson, AZ 85741-2502

www.icstucson.org

Contact: Diane Luber

(520) 297-2738 ext 229

Interfaith Community Services Food Bank to be open Saturdays

Beginning Jan. 30, Interfaith Community Services will expand the hours of its food bank to Saturdays.

The ICS Food Bank will be the only partner with the Community Food Bank to distribute emergency food boxes six days a week in Pima County and one of only five open on Saturdays.

The ICS Food Bank, which is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on weekdays at 2820 W. Ina Road, will also be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, beginning Jan. 30.

It is one of more than 30 food pantries and Tucson neighborhood centers that distribute the Community Food Bank's emergency food boxes. Recipients can go to any of the sites to obtain their monthly food box.

"Expanding our food bank hours to Saturday will allow us to better serve working Pima County residents who are still struggling to make ends meet," said ICS Executive Director Bonnie Kampa. "It will also be a volunteer opportunity for people whose work schedules keep them from being able to help on weekdays."

The food bank will also accept food donations during its Saturday hours.

The ICS Food Bank distributed emergency food boxes, its own Holiday Food Packages and other donated food, when available, to nearly 28,000 recipients in the fiscal year that ended June 30, a 55 percent increase over the previous year.

ICS is a volunteer-based nonprofit that serves the elderly, the disabled and the disadvantaged with a wide range of programs, including a food bank; Mobile Meals; emergency financial assistance; transportation for medical appointments, shopping and other errands; home repairs; friendly calls and visits; and health-needs assessments, referrals and advocacy. ICS receives volunteer and financial support from 50 faith communities, and the community at large. Its volunteer base has grown to 600. For more information, call 297-6049.

###