

## For Immediate Release

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## **SCARE AWAY HUNGER – Trick or Treat for Food**

CONCORD, Calif. -- More than 100 Concord High School students and teachers, supported by a team of Tesoro Martinez Refinery employees, will be out on Thursday, October 29 to “Scare Away Hunger” on behalf of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano.

The students have formed teams that will trick-or-treat for food and monetary donations in Concord neighborhoods surrounding the high school. The purpose is to raise much-needed funds and food for the Food Bank, which currently serves one in eight residents. Tesoro is supporting the event with volunteers and vehicles, and is also matching dollar-for-dollar the funds collected or pounds of food donated for both the Food Bank and Concord High School.

The event starts at Concord High School on October 29 at 5:00 p.m. with an event kickoff dinner for the student teams hosted by Tesoro. Food Bank staff will be on-hand with scales to weigh the food that teams bring in or that the public drops off. All teams must return for final weigh-in by 8:30 p.m. Concord High School teams are competing against one another to see who can raise the most funds and pounds of food.

“Scare Away Hunger is such a positive event each year for both the students and the recipients of the Food Bank’s collection efforts,” said Tesoro Martinez Refinery Manager Tom Lu. “Tesoro is proud of its role in helping to feed the hungry while also contributing to valuable programs that benefit Concord High School students.”

The collection areas are in close proximity to the school. Several days before the event, students will place bags on porches and return on October 29 to collect the donations. Folks who do not receive a bag and would like to participate may bring donations of food or funds to Concord High School on October 29 between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Concord High School is located at 4200 Concord Blvd.

“People shouldn’t have to worry about where their next meal is going to come from,” said Larry Sly, Executive Director of the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. “Currently, 1 in 8 residents receives food from the Food Bank and what’s making a difference for us in meeting the demand is how the community comes together with innovative ways to collect food and get the message out.”

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano has been serving the community since 1975, providing food to more than 190,000 people in need every month directly at community sites and through a network of 180 charitable agencies. The Food Bank distributed approximately 20 million pounds of food last year.

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