

For Immediate Release

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Northern Illinois Food Bank
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Naperville Woman Joins Fight Against Hunger

(St. Charles, IL) Dr. Alicia McCareins of Naperville doesn't take the issue of hunger lightly. Dr. McCareins, who first got involved with the Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) over a year ago, was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the four-star charity. Her first experience with NIFB was during a national hunger drive organized by Campbell Soup. It was a friendly competition between mothers of NFL players. Dr. McCareins, with the help of her son Justin of the Tennessee Titans, raised over 43 tons of food. But she hasn't stopped there. This doctor and grandmother has agreed to a four-year commitment to see the food bank's vision, of creating a hunger-free northern Illinois, through. Justin is committed to using his recognition to help his mother in her efforts.

"The drive and passion that Alicia brings to everything she endeavors has already been a great asset to the food bank. Since her appointment in November, Alicia has joined the DuPage County Capital Campaign Committee as Chair and is also working to help secure Community Development Block Grant funding from Naperville for our new facility" says NIFB C.E.O. and President, H. Dennis Smith. "Considering Alicia's rise from her humble beginnings in Trinidad, to her success here in the U.S., I know the food bank will benefit greatly from her dedication" Smith added.

"I was truly honored to be asked to serve as an NIFB board member. I am thoroughly impressed with NIFB's zeal, commitment and unending support of my efforts to raise food for residents of DuPage and 12 other counties. I view the appointment as a golden opportunity for me to impact policy and more effectively disseminate information about hunger. Most importantly, I have first-hand knowledge of how hunger concerns affect people's day-to-day existence, from my experience of living in the islands. I am passionate about doing what I can to address and eliminate hunger with NIFB as an ally." says Dr. McCareins.

About Northern Illinois Food Bank

Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) is a non-profit organization that provides food to all those in need through its 520 partner agencies in the following 13 counties – Boone, DuPage, DeKalb, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will and Winnebago. NIFB acquires, gathers, handles, and distributes donated, government, and purchased food to more than 50,000 different people each week through local food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, youth activity centers and other food assistance sites. In Fiscal Year 2009 NIFB distributed over 27 million pounds of food. The Food Bank has recently launched a Capital Campaign to build a new Food

Distribution and Community Nutrition Center to enable them to handle more food more efficiently to meet the increasing demand.
