



Statement by Food for the Hungry President & CEO Mark Viso on Historic US Government Commitment to Treat Malnutrition

Washington, DC (July 18, 2022) – “Today USAID Administrator Samantha Power announced the single largest investment in history to treat severe malnutrition – a \$200 million U.S. Government commitment to treat child wasting, the deadliest form of malnutrition. Much of this funding will go towards production of Ready-to-Use-Therapeutic Food (RUTF), a special peanut paste packed with vital nutrients that quickly and effectively restore the health of a severely malnourished child.

“Food for the Hungry applauds this historic commitment, as the need is urgent and growing. Last year 45 million children were suffering from wasting – and that was before Russia’s invasion of Ukraine further strained overburdened food systems. UNICEF estimates the current crisis is pushing one child into severe malnutrition every minute. Currently, only 20% of wasted children receive treatment – but today’s announcement will change that. This investment demonstrates America’s moral leadership and commitment to saving the lives of millions of the world’s most vulnerable children.

”Food for the Hungry provides screening and treatment for children suffering from moderate and severe malnutrition, and we work hand-in-hand with communities to create sustainable solutions to their greatest challenges. We look forward to continued partnership with the U.S. Government and the private sector as we work to save lives and fight hunger, poverty, and injustice.”

About Food for the Hungry

Food for the Hungry (FH) is a Christian humanitarian organization providing life-changing development programs, disaster relief, and advocacy since 1971. Inspired by our belief that every person has intrinsic value and inestimable worth, we seek to end all forms of poverty and combat injustice by going to the hard places and humbly walking with the world’s most vulnerable people. Through context-specific agriculture, health and nutrition, clean water, education, and disaster risk reduction programs, Food for the Hungry builds resilience and transforms lives. In 2021, we provided emergency and humanitarian relief to 3.1 million people and impacted over 10 million lives through our development programs. With over 99% of staff serving in their country of origin, Food for the Hungry develops sustainable, locally led solutions to fight poverty and injustice. For more information, follow FH on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#), or visit www.fh.org.