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**MEDIA ALERT**

*Helping The Hungry*

**500 NEEDY ST. LOUIS FAMILIES TO RECEIVE  
HAMS FOR THE HOLIDAY**

***Ameristar Team Members Will Load Hams And Pies For  
Five Metro Food Pantries At Operation Food Search  
Wednesday, March 19 At 10:30 A.M.***

**What:** 500 St. Louis Metro Area underprivileged families will receive a ham and pie distributed by Ameristar Team Members at Operation Food Search. Five metro area food pantries will receive the food items.

**Where:** Operation Food Search warehouse, 6282 Olive Blvd, St. Louis, 63130.

**When:** Wednesday morning, March 19 at 10:30 a.m.

**Facts:**

- 500 families are served by Missouri Foster Care Association and Oasis Food Pantry in **St. Charles** will receive the ham and other food items donated by Ameristar as well as Organizational New Pilgrim and Miller's Food Pantries in **St. Louis**, Mt. Zion East Food Pantry in **North St. Louis** and Richwood's Food Pantry in **East St. Louis**.
- In the St. Louis Metro area, nearly 12 percent of the population (395,000 people) live below the poverty line and are at risk of hunger.
- Each month, Operation Food Search distributes nearly 1.5 million pounds of food and household items to more than 250 partner agencies that in turn feed more than 100,000 poor people every single month.
- Ameristar Team Members and company matches have generated more than \$2 million for seven St. Louis agencies and funds through the company's annual Ameristar Cares campaign.
- Ameristar also donates 400 to 500 pounds of leftover fresh food from its restaurant each month as part of OFS' Operation Food Rescue program.