

## **Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 29, 2013 CONTACT: Estella Espinosa W: (832) 395-7022 C: (832) 465-4782

# The Arby's Foundation 'Hungry for Happiness' Mobile Tour Stops in Houston to Help Fight Child Hunger

On August 5 through August 6, the Hungry for Happiness mobile tour will visit Houston to help raise awareness about the issue of childhood hunger and increase participation in free summer meals sites for kids located in the area. Summer continues to be a vulnerable time for those who rely on school breakfast and lunch during the school year. The Arby's Foundation, the charitable arm of Arby's Restaurant Group, Inc., in partnership with Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry<sup>®</sup> campaign, is committed to helping kids get the food they need.

In Texas, only 9.4 percent of school children who rely on free or reduced-price school lunches during the school year currently participate in summer meal programs. These free programs are available to kids and teens age 18 and under at thousands of summer meals sites across the country. Sites are registered with USDA and are held at safe local places such as schools, churches and community centers.

The Hungry for Happiness mobile tour has partnered with the Houston Parks and Recreation Department and Interfaith Ministries to provide more area children access to healthy food during the summer months. Local stops in the Hungry for Happiness mobile tour include:

Monday, August 5, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Sunnyside Community Center, 3502 Bellfort St, Houston

Tuesday, August 6, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Arby's, 5471 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena

In each market, the tour will provide Arby's® Kids Meals (which are endorsed by Kids LiveWell and include a Jr. turkey and cheese sandwich, apple slices and Shamrock Farms low-fat milk) to children participating in the summer meals program, distribute information on local resources to the public, and provide fun summer activities such as hula-hoop contests, tug of war, bean bag toss, basketball and other family-friendly games to get kids moving.

The tour will also host a benefit night at the Arby's® at 5471 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena where 20% of the evening's sales will be donated to Interfaith Ministries Meals on Wheels program.

"Childhood hunger is an issue in the Houston area and we are grateful that the Arby's Foundation and Share Our Strength are helping raise awareness of this issue. We are most appreciative of the event being held at our Sunnyside Community Center for our local families," said Joe Turner, Director, Houston Parks and Recreation Department.

Families in Texas can find a free summer meals site near them by visiting NoKidHungry.org/summer, calling 1-866-3HUNGRY, or texting FOOD to 877-877.

Houston is one of 30 stops on the national 2013 Hungry for Happiness mobile tour. National sponsors supporting the mobile tour include Pepsi, Dr Pepper, Comcast and Shamrock Farms. Arby's is the largest quick service restaurant chain to partner in a nationwide effort with Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry campaign, and has raised more than \$5 million for its mission since 2011. Arby's and the Arby's Foundation have generated significant national awareness of the childhood hunger movement by leveraging its restaurants and digital and social media properties in the fight to end childhood hunger in America.

#### About the Arby's Foundation

The Arby's Foundation, whose mission is to end childhood hunger in America, is the charitable arm of Arby's Restaurant Group, Inc. Building on a philanthropic heritage that has contributed more than \$57 million to child-related causes since its inception in 1986, the Arby's Foundation has launched a bold new movement to educate, mobilize and empower Americans with the knowledge and resources needed to ensure food security for every single child. With more than 16.7 million U.S. children—more than 1 in 5—facing hunger daily, the Arby's Foundation has devoted its resources to providing education and access to wholesome food choices for children across the country. The Arby's Foundation is a registered 501 (c) (3) organization headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. To learn more, visit <u>www.arbysfoundation.org</u>.

### About Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Campaign

No child should grow up hungry in America, but one in five children struggles with hunger. Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry<sup>®</sup> campaign is ending childhood hunger in America by ensuring all children get the healthy food they need, every day. The No Kid Hungry campaign connects kids in need to effective nutrition programs like school breakfast and summer meals and teaches low-income families to cook healthy, affordable meals through Cooking Matters. This work is accomplished through the No Kid Hungry network, made up of private citizens, public officials, nonprofits, business leaders and others providing innovative hunger solutions in their communities. Join us at <u>NoKidHungry.org</u>.

#### About the Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,832 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visitwww.houstonparks.org.

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