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## **Waterfront Blues Festival celebrates another spectacular year**

*Oregon Food Bank to help thousands in need with funds raised during festival*

Portland, Oregon – July 8, 2016 – Fantastic weather, amazing artists, dedicated sponsors, enthusiastic volunteers, and generous blues fans came together to make the 2016 Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival a big success.

The Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival, presented by First Tech Federal Credit Union, raised \$1,043,571 through ticket sales as well as purchases of special passes and Delta Music Experience blues cruise tickets. Approximately 87,000 people attended over the four days of this year's event.

"We can't thank our attendees and sponsors enough for their generous support; without them we could not have reached our goal," said Susannah Morgan, CEO of Oregon Food Bank. "The funds raised will provide millions of meals for families and individuals struggling with hunger in Oregon and Clark County, Washington."

"The talent at this year's festival was amazing. Up-and-comers ZZ Ward, Ty Curtis and Kingfish really drew the crowds and blues purists couldn't get enough of 83 years-young Leo "Bud" Welch. It's great to see the evolution and interpretations of blues, a truly American style of music," she added.

Blues fans were treated to more than 100 acts including Tedeschi Trucks Band, Liv Warfield, JJ Grey & Mofro, Maceo Parker, Samantha Fish, Soul Rebels, Indigenous, Curtis Salgado, Christone "Kingfish" Ingram, The Record Company, Femi Kuti, California Honeydrops, Liz Vice, Leo "Bud" Welch, Ty Curtis, and ZZ Ward.

### **About Waterfront Blues Festival**

Since 1988, Oregon Food Bank has produced the Waterfront Blues Festival to raise funds and awareness to fight hunger in Oregon and Clark County, Washington. This Portland hallmark event has become a treasured tradition for locals and visitors alike; it is the largest blues festival west of the Mississippi and the second largest blues festival in the nation. Most important, the festival is Oregon Food Bank's largest annual fundraiser at a time when the need for food remains high.

**Major sponsors:** Safeway, First Tech Federal Credit Union, iQ Credit Union, FedEx, Deschutes Brewery, Coors Light, The Oregonian, KINK 101.9, KOIN 6, Buick GMC of Beaverton  
**Supporting sponsors:** The Boeing Company, Schwindt & Co., Health Net, Caring Ambassadors, Portland Community College, Highgrove Farms, KBOO, Columbia Crest, Earth20, Mission Foods, Snapple,

*Pepsi, Frito Lay, Umpqua Dairy, Franz Bakery, Screamin' Sicilian Pizza Co., Clackamas County Tourism, Delta Music Experience, Uber, Marriott Hotels, University Place Hotel, Hotel Rose, Riverplace Hotel.*

More information: [waterfrontbluesfest.com](http://waterfrontbluesfest.com)

**About Oregon Food Bank**

With sufficient public will and support of the entire community, we believe it is possible to eliminate hunger and its root causes. Oregon Food Bank collects and distributes food through a network of four Oregon Food Bank branches and 17 regional food banks serving Oregon and Clark County, Washington. The Oregon Food Bank Network helps nearly 1 in 5 households fend off hunger. Oregon Food Bank also leads statewide efforts to increase resources for hungry families and to eliminate the root causes of hunger through advocacy, nutrition education, garden education, and helping communities strengthen local food systems. For more information visit [oregonfoodbank.org](http://oregonfoodbank.org).

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