



Media Contact: Andrea Carter – 760.285.6828

## **SunLine and Palm Desert Rotary Partner for "Pantry to People" Food Collection Event**

**(Thousand Palms, CA)** SunLine Transit Agency has partnered with the Palm Desert Rotary to host the 2nd Annual "Pantry to People" food collection event, happening Saturday, March 28th from 7am to 7pm at the Albertsons located at 74-590 Highway 111 in Palm Desert. "Pantry to People" will benefit Galilee Center – which provides fresh produce and non-perishable food items to more than 300 individuals each week.

The focus of the event is to encourage people to contribute non-perishable food, canned foods, diapers and toiletries by bringing them to the bus parked at Albertson's on March 28th. SunLine will deliver all donations to Galilee Center.

"We really want to get the word out to seasonal residents and snowbirds and ask them to bring their unused pantry items to this event before they leave the Coachella Valley," said Lauren Skiver, General Manager of SunLine Transit Agency. "We've heard from a number of property management companies in the area that when visitors leave their rentals or second homes, food gets left behind and expires. This is a way to clear out their pantry and provide those items to others who are in need. It's truly a win-win opportunity."

For those who may be permanent residents or do not have items in their pantry to donate, Albertson's will have some of the most necessary items at the front of the store available for purchase – which can then be brought onto the bus so they can participate in this event, as well.

"The Palm Desert Rotary has been instrumental in helping Galilee Center through a number of initiatives, and we are so pleased to be partnering with SunLine for another year to spearhead a collective effort that will help so many served by Galilee Center," added Meegan Sullivan, president of Palm Desert Rotary.

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*SunLine Transit Agency is a joint powers authority formed in 1977 to operate the Coachella Valley's public transportation system. SunLine offers fixed route bus service and curb-to-curb paratransit for the mobility impaired. Its fixed route and paratransit vehicles travel more than 4 million miles per year, covering over 619 bus stops located throughout a 1,120 mile-service area, carrying approximately 4.82 million riders. SunLine Services Group regulates three taxi franchises who provide taxi services throughout the Valley. SunFuels alternative fueling station offers compressed natural gas and hydrogen for SunLine and the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To learn more, please visit [sunline.org](http://sunline.org).*