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For Immediate Release

### **League staff help to feed their hungry neighbors**

Naperville, IL., September 1, 2009 – The Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) now has 405 more pounds of nourishment to provide to those in need thanks to a food drive held by the Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL).

Non-perishable items, such as canned fruits and vegetables, canned meals (soups, stews and chili), tuna, peanut butter, and cereal were among the many kinds of most needed items collected in the drive. This was the first ever food drive held by ICUL employees.

As a member of Feeding America (formerly America's Second Harvest - the Nation's Food Bank Network), NIFB distributed more than 22.5 million pounds of food in 2008 to more than 520 food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens, and other food assistance sites in 13 northern Illinois counties. Nearly 41,000 people receive food assistance each week through NIFB and its hunger-fighting network.

According to NIFB, 33 percent of those helped are children under the age of 18. In addition, 60 percent have incomes below the official federal poverty level, including nearly 56,000 individuals in DuPage County where ICUL is located.

“Hunger never takes a vacation and we received a great response by our staff to this first time event,” said Dan Plauda, ICUL president/chief executive officer.

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**Note:** The Illinois Credit Union League (ICUL) is the primary trade association for credit unions in Illinois, which provides members with information, legislation and education. Membership is open to any credit union operating in accordance with the Illinois Credit Union Act or the Federal Credit Union Act. There are 416 credit unions in Illinois with more than 2.7 million members.