



DRAFT 1/12/15 12:30 PM - EV

NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Food for the Hungry Joins Christian Leaders in Urging
Presidential Candidates to Focus on Ending Hunger, Poverty**
Circle of Protection Press Conference to Take Place Jan. 15 in Washington, D.C.

WHO: Faith leaders representing a wide spectrum of Christian denominations, seminaries and organizations. Speakers include Rev. David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World; Galen Carey, vice president of government relations for the National Association of Evangelicals; Rev. Sèkinah Hamlin, director of the Ecumenical Poverty Initiative; Rev. Carlos Malavè, executive director of Christian Churches Together; Rev. Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA; and Rev. Jim Wallis, president and founder of Sojourners.

WHAT: A press conference challenging U.S. presidential candidates to make hunger and poverty a national priority. Sponsored by the Circle of Protection.

WHEN: Thursday, Jan. 15, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., EST

WHERE: National Press Club, 529 14th St., NW, Washington, D.C. (Murrow Room)

WHY: As President Obama prepares to deliver his State of the Union address, more than 100 Christian leaders are already focusing on how the next president will work to end hunger and poverty both in the United States and around the world.

Political leaders seeking the presidency in 2016 are being challenged to provide by video their plan to help those whom Jesus called “the least of these.” These Christian leaders, convened by the Circle of Protection, will ask both Republican and Democratic presidential candidates to produce video statements on how they propose to provide help and opportunity to hungry and poor people in the U.S. and abroad. Once received, the Christian leaders plan to disseminate the videos among their wide networks in an effort to inform the public. The leaders hope these videos will help elevate hunger and poverty as an election issue.

QUOTE: “Food for the Hungry is proud to join our fellow Christian faith leaders in calling for a renewed focus on hunger and poverty,” said Food for the Hungry President and CEO Gary Edmonds. “ We look forward to seeing what all of our country’s 2016 Presidential candidates plan to do to help those suffering in our own country and overseas.”

The Circle of Protection is composed of Christian leaders who are heads of denominations, agencies, and organizations. To learn more, visit www.circleofprotection.us

Founded in 1971, [Food for the Hungry](http://www.foodforthehungry.org) provides emergency relief and long-term development programs with operations in more than 20 countries to help the world's most vulnerable people. Learn more by visiting fh.org. Social connections include facebook.com/foodforthehungry and twitter.com/food4thehungry.

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