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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Canstruction 2010** **Fighting Hunger through Design**

Canstruction is one of the most unique food charities in the world. Magnificent sculptures built almost entirely of canned goods are created by local teams of architects, engineers & students and then displayed for the public to see. But the best part is that when the sculptures are deconstructed, all of the canned goods used are loaded up and donated to the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry and the St. Louis Area Foodbank! Internationally, over 140 cities throughout the world participate. Since its inception in 1993, over 10 million cans have been collected and donated. Last years' Canstruction project brought in 40,000 canned goods to our area.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Canstruction in St. Louis and will be on display at the Missouri History Museum March 24 – April 5, 2010. In honor of the new location, all of the structures are uniquely Missouri and include can-made interpretations of the Bevo Mill, the Planterium, a River Boat, the Zoo sign, a Horses & Beer Cart, Spirit of St. Louis, Huck Finn, and the Missouri Honey Bee to name a few. Each structure is built entirely from canned goods from Save A Lot food stores. Structures are judged by a panel made up of local business and industry leaders and winners are chosen on the local level. The winners of the local competitions go on to compete through photos at the National Competition held each May.

This is great fun for the whole family AND it benefits local food pantries when need is at its highest. We invite you to come out, view the structures and bring us a few more cans to make the campaign bigger than ever! Simply place your cans in the collection bin by your favorite structure. The structure with the most cans at the end of the exhibit will win *People's Choice*, but most importantly, one more hungry person in St. Louis will have a meal.

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If you can't make it out to the exhibit you can still help. Visit any St. Louis area Charter Communications Customer Care Center and donate at least five cans of food to receive a 1 cent movie from Charter onDemand! You can also find collection bins at all of your generous St. Louis area Honda Dealers, as well as any area Incredible Pizza Company location.

Also, when you bring in a can of food to the exhibit, you can receive \$1 off of the *RACE: Are We So Different?* exhibit at the Missouri History Museum. There are just so many good reasons to participate in this cause and have a great time doing it! Save-A-Lot will be matching all donations, pound for pound!

Food pantries across St. Louis are struggling to feed those who are going without food or who have to choose between buying groceries or other essentials. Some of this increase is due to economic conditions in our area. The St. Louis Area Foodbank distributed over 22 million pounds of food in 2009. The Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry, a program of Jewish Family & Children's Service has seen a 42 percent increase in clients, and a record amount of people in December of 2009 - 4,570 clients. Food from this wonderful project will help to feed those who would otherwise go hungry.

Charter Media has produced a series of short pieces about the Canstruction exhibit with behind the scenes footage. You can find these pieces on Charter onDemand Channel 1 under the I Want More! category or simply visit [www.canstructionstl.com](http://www.canstructionstl.com) for more info.

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*Jewish Family & Children's Service (JF&CS) provides families in our community with the resources they need to meet the challenges of everyday living. JF&CS touched the lives of over 77,000 individuals last year. Its highly skilled staff provides therapy for a full range of emotional and behavioral issues, as well as care management and homemaker services for older adults who need assistance maintaining an independent lifestyle. The Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry is available to anyone in the community who may need assistance providing for their family. Agency children's programs include school-based seminars about child abuse prevention and Internet safety, as well as behavioral and educational assessments conducted by experienced psychologists. At JF&CS, the full-range of issues and challenges that may confront your family is addressed. JF&CS is funded by both the United Way and the Jewish Federation of St. Louis.*