Mosaic’s Home Runs for Food Donation Hits $13,500 for 2013 Spring Training Season

(Port Charlotte, FL, April 1) – The Mosaic Company, through its Home Runs for Food program with the Tampa Bay Rays, is contributing $13,500 to the Harry Chapin Food Bank to help feed hungry families in Charlotte County. Mosaic representative Kaley Miller, joined by Kevin Russell, president of the board of the United Way of Charlotte County, presented a check to Al Brislain, president and CEO of the Harry Chapin Food Bank, prior to the start of the Rays’ March 23 spring training game at Charlotte Sports Park.

Under the Home Runs for Food Program, Mosaic pledges $500 to the organization for every home run hit by the Rays. This year’s contribution brings the total contributed to Harry Chapin over the past three years to $41,000.

“We’re pleased to wrap up the third year of this outstanding program in Charlotte County, which is making a positive impact on local residents in need,” said Bo Davis, senior vice president, phosphate operations for Mosaic. “The Home Runs for Food partnership underscores Mosaic’s global mission of helping the world grow the food it needs.”

While the Harry Chapin Food Bank serves Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties, Mosaic’s donation is earmarked to help overcome hunger specifically in Charlotte County. Hunger in Charlotte County has increased dramatically over the past four years. Harry Chapin distributed 1.8 million pounds of food last year to two dozen Charlotte County partner agencies, including the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition, Cooper Street Recreation Center, First Church of the Nazarene, and St. Vincent De Paul.

“Mosaic’s ongoing support has made a real difference in the lives of so many neighbors in need in Charlotte County,” said Al Brislain, Harry Chapin president and chief executive officer. “Together, Mosaic and the Harry Chapin Food Bank are fighting hunger and helping families in their struggle towards self-sufficiency.”

In honor of the Home Runs for Food partnership, Brislain threw out the first pitch of the March 23 Rays game.
The Home Runs for Food program began during the Rays’ 2010 regular season to benefit Feeding America Tampa Bay, and will ramp up during regular season again on April 2 at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg.

Mosaic is committed to investing in its home communities. During the company’s last fiscal year, Mosaic and The Mosaic Company Foundation contributed more than $8.4 million to community organizations in Florida. Mosaic is committed to investing at least one percent of the three-year rolling average of earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) into our communities.

The Harry Chapin Food Bank was the recipient of a $125,000 grant from The Mosaic Company Foundation for a new 24-foot refrigerated truck unveiled in September 2012. The truck is used to deliver food to partner agencies, particularly in Charlotte County, and to pick up produce and other food from area growers, packing houses, and retailers.

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About Mosaic

The Mosaic Company, through its Florida-based subsidiary Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC, is the world’s leading producer of phosphate crop nutrients. America’s farmers rely on Florida phosphate to help grow their food crops. Phosphate is a natural product for which there is no man-made substitute, making phosphate reserves in Florida of strategic importance to critical sectors of the state and national economy, including farming, manufacturing, shipping, trucking and rail. Mosaic employs more than 3,000 Central Florida residents, and tens of thousands of Floridians work in other jobs dependent upon the industry. For more information, go to www.mosaicco.com/florida

About the Harry Chapin Food Bank

The mission of the Harry Chapin Food Bank is “To overcome hunger in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties through education and by working in a cooperative effort with affiliated agencies in the procurement and distribution of food, equitably and without discrimination.” This mission is achieved through continuous strategic planning, implementation, evaluation and program expansion. On an annual basis, the Harry Chapin Food Bank provides more than 13.7 million pounds of nutritious, quality food to 150 Partner Agencies that provide direct services to those in need. Additionally, the food bank’s success is achieved through the ability to convert every $1 donated into $6 of food and by low administrative and fundraising costs which is evidenced by being awarded the highest rating of 4 stars through Charity Navigator the charitable watchdog group.

About The Tampa Bay Rays

The Tampa Bay Rays have proudly represented Major League Baseball in the Tampa Bay region since 1998. The organization and its foundation are committed to building a strong community bond through meaningful interaction and charitable contributions.

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