

**For Immediate Release**

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## **NEW OVERLAND PARK DUNKIN' DONUTS OPENS MAY 19**

### ***Grand Opening to Benefit Harvesters, Toast Overland Park's 50th***

**(May, 2010)**—A new Dunkin' Donuts will open at 5 a.m., Wednesday, May 19, in Overland Park, where the restaurant owners and members of the community will join together to support Harvesters-The Community Food Network and Overland Park's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The new restaurant, located at 7446 Metcalf at the corner of 75<sup>th</sup> and Metcalf, is owned by local developer Verona Key LLC, which plans to open 15 new Dunkin' Donuts restaurants in Greater Kansas City. Part of the aggressive Overland Park development plan along Metcalf, the new restaurant is on the site of a former BP station.

Beginning at 5 a.m., Harvesters staff and volunteers will be on hand to collect canned goods for the food bank. Each person who brings at least three cans of food or a cash donation for Harvesters anytime from May 19 – 23 will receive a coupon for a Free Medium DD coffee, no purchase necessary.

At 7:30 a.m., Harvesters CEO Karen Haren will arrive to thank the crowd for supporting Harvesters and the up to 66,000 people the food bank feeds each week. The Shawnee Mission East cheerleading squad will join Haren at 8 a.m. to lead the crowd in special commemorative cheers. The cheerleaders, led by Squad Director Kelly Chapman, requested that their \$250 donation be given directly to Harvesters.

City Council President David Janson, Harvesters Board Member Mary McClure and other community leaders will arrive at 9 a.m. for the official Dunkin' Donuts Coffee Toast to the city, one day before Overland Park celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the day it officially became an incorporated city.

To add to the celebration, Verona Key's Jen Benjamin and Kristin Rhyne McClure have created two special donuts honoring Harvesters and Overland Park. The Harvesters donut is a chocolate, orange and yellow sprinkled donut, and the Overland Park 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary donut features white frosting and blue and green sprinkles representing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo. Both will be sold throughout May.

In addition to hosting the food drive and giving away free coffee to donors, Verona Key will donate \$2,000 to Harvesters, an amount that will provide 10,000 meals to feed the hungry.

"Harvesters is the organization we all look to in Kansas City to lead the efforts in feeding the hungry," Benjamin added. "The Dunkin' Brands and Baskin-Robbins Community Foundation recognized their success in providing for people in need by donating a permanent disaster relief truck to Harvesters over a year ago...Verona Key is committed to continuing that long-term partnership with Harvesters."

“This year, one in every eight people in our community will receive food assistance from Harvesters’ network,” Haren said. “We congratulate Dunkin’ Donuts and Verona Key on their opening today, and are grateful for their ongoing support and dedication to helping us feed hungry families.”

The new Dunkin’ Donuts restaurant is Verona Key’s second Dunkin’ Donuts in Overland Park. Their first location opened in November at 7722 W. 151<sup>st</sup> St. Both restaurants feature the brand’s complete menu of internationally recognized coffee beverages, baked goods and other all-day items such as flatbread sandwiches and hash browns. Both also include drive-thru windows and operate from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Verona Key, LLC, a Kansas City-based female-owned and operated business, plans to develop more than 15 Dunkin’ Donuts’ restaurants in Greater Kansas City. The company is a partnership between Jennifer Benjamin, president, and Kristin Rhyne McClure, COO and CFO. Benjamin and her family have lived in Johnson County for 14 years. McClure and her family reside in Boston, which is the headquarters of Dunkin’ Brands, Inc. For more information, visit <http://cupofkc.com/>.

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### **About Harvesters**

Harvesters is this area’s only food bank. Covering a 26-county area of northeastern Kansas and northwestern Missouri, Harvesters provides food and related household to more than 550 not-for-profit agencies including emergency food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, children’s homes, homes for the mentally disabled and shelters for battered persons. Agencies in Harvesters’ network provide food assistance to as many as 66,000 different people each week. Harvesters, which was founded in 1979, is a certified member of Feeding America, a nationwide network of more than 200 food banks, serving all 50 states. For more information, visit [www.harvesters.org](http://www.harvesters.org).

### **About Dunkin’ Donuts**

Founded in 1950, Dunkin’ Donuts is America’s favorite every day, all-day stop for coffee and baked goods. Dunkin’ Donuts is a market leader in the regular/decaf coffee, iced coffee, hot flavored coffee, donut, bagel and muffin categories, and the largest coffee and baked goods chain in the world. Dunkin’ Donuts has earned the No. 1 ranking for customer loyalty in the coffee category by Brand Keys for four years running. The company has more than 9,000 restaurants in 31 countries worldwide. In 2009, Dunkin’ Donuts’ global system-wide sales were \$5.7 billion. Based in Canton, Massachusetts, Dunkin’ Donuts is a subsidiary of Dunkin’ Brands, Inc. For more information, visit [www.DunkinDonuts.com](http://www.DunkinDonuts.com).