



The NCPW press conference featured (l to r) Katrina Rolle, President/CEO, United Way of the Big Bend; FPSC Chairman Julie Brown; Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Miller, City of Tallahassee; and Jim Croteau, Second Harvest Interim CEO.

The FPSC appreciates Second Harvest distributing information about the Lifeline Assistance program to help their clients receive phone service.



The FPSC Celebrates National Consumer Protection Week

To highlight National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 6-12, this year the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) partnered with America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend. Focusing on the need to fight hunger and foster essential phone service, the PSC's NCPW kick off on March 7 also included local community agencies.

Along with PSC Chairman Julie Brown, the NCPW press conference featured Jim Croteau, Second Harvest Interim CEO; Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Miller, City of Tallahassee; and Katrina Rolle, President/CEO, United Way of the Big Bend. Together, the community leaders stressed the ongoing need for low-income residents to have adequate food and affordable phone service.

"The PSC appreciates Second Harvest distributing information about the Lifeline Assistance program to help their clients receive phone service. It's a basic necessity that remains a luxury for many individuals," said Chairman Brown. "The PSC is also proud to support Second Harvest in its work to help Big Bend area families get the food they need."

"Our mission is to fight hunger by working with our network of partner agencies to provide food to men, women, and children in need," said Croteau. "We welcome the PSC's participation as we fight hunger and feed hope and look forward to fostering the PSC's message about the Lifeline Assistance program among our various networks."

During the week, PSC staff made presentations to consumers in Jacksonville, Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Panama City, showing them how to save money through energy and water conservation and how to apply for the federal Lifeline Assistance telephone discount program, if they qualify. Lifeline helps eligible Floridians reduce their monthly phone bill and stay connected to job opportunities, as well as to businesses and community services.

NCPW is an annual coordinated campaign that encourages consumers nationwide to take full advantage of their consumer rights and make better-informed decisions. Visit the NCPW website at <https://www.ncpw.gov/>.

For additional information on America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend, visit <http://www.fightinghunger.org/>.