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BankRI Effort Leads to 47,307 Pounds of Food for Local Pantries

In-branch collections and charitable grants for food acquisition combine to help food assistance programs statewide restock pantry shelves during a time of high need

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Together with the generosity of its customers and the community, **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** generated a total of 47,307 pounds of food for 15 food pantries across the state during its recent food drive. The effort helps the emergency food programs restock their shelves to meet the need they see during late summer and early fall, and the pounds reflect the result of in-branch collections and charitable grants earmarked for food acquisition.

“Our annual food drive offers our customers and our staff an easy way to make a difference for local families and to join us in supporting an issue as important as fighting hunger,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO, BankRI. “Every donation counts, and every donation helps – I thank everyone who contributed to what was another great effort.”

For the twelfth straight year, BankRI launched its 7-week food drive on August 1 at all 20 of its branches. Through September 20, each branch hosted a collection on behalf of a food pantry partner that serves its community, ensuring the food would benefit local residents. Along with the in-branch collections, BankRI awarded each pantry a grant to acquire additional food through the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. All of the pantries are members of the Food Bank’s emergency food network, and each grant will allow for an additional 3,000 pounds of food.

“Every year, we look forward to working with BankRI to get more food to our neighbors in need,” said Andrew Schiff, CEO of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. “Our member agencies in communities throughout the state truly appreciate the support they receive from BankRI and its generous customers and staff.”

About Bank Rhode Island

Bank Rhode Island, a wholly owned subsidiary of Brookline Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:BRKL), is a full-service, FDIC-insured financial institution headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. The bank operates 20 branches and more than 40 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit www.bankri.com. You can also find BankRI on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland.

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