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## BankRI’s Annual Food Drive Generates 23 Tons for Local Pantries

*Through 7-weeks of branch collections and individual charitable grants earmarked for food acquisition, emergency food programs across the state receive help restocking shelves during a time of high need*

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – For seven weeks, **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** rallied the support of customers, staff, and members of the community during its annual summer food drive, generating a total of 23 tons of food for 15 food pantries across the state. Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, the effort is strategically timed to help pantries restock their shelves to meet the high need they experience during late summer.

Beginning on August 1 and continuing until September 21, each of BankRI’s 20 branches hosted a food collection to benefit a pantry that serves its community, ensuring the food collected would remain local to feed area residents. In addition to the branch collections, BankRI awarded each of its food pantry partners a charitable grant to acquire additional food through the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. All of the drive’s beneficiaries are members of the Food Bank’s network of emergency food programs, and each pantry’s charitable grant will allow them to leverage an additional 3,000 pounds of food.

“Hunger is an issue that crosses all social demographics and affects every community in our state – it’s also a cause that brings out the generosity in Rhode Islanders who want to help their neighbors in need,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO, BankRI. “Year after year, I remain grateful for the support shown on behalf of those who are less fortunate, and I’d like to thank everyone who made a donation and helped to make this year’s drive a success.”

“We’re so thankful for the support BankRI and its customers have given to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and its member agencies,” said Food Bank CEO Andrew Schiff. “By connecting individual branches directly with nearby food pantries in their communities, we’re able to ensure that food is distributed where it’s needed most.”

Food pantries benefitting from BankRI’s 2018 food drive and the communities they serve are:

<b>Coventry:</b> Coventry Friends of Human Services	<b>North Kingstown:</b> North Kingstown Food Pantry
<b>Cranston:</b> Comprehensive Community Action Program	<b>Pawtucket:</b> Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Ctr.
<b>East Greenwich:</b> East Greenwich Interfaith Food Cupboard	<b>Providence: East Side:</b> Domestic Violence Program of Crossroads RI
<b>East Providence:</b> East Bay Community Action Program	<b>Providence: Turks Head:</b> Providence In-town Churches Association Food Pantry
<b>Johnston:</b> Tri-County Community Action Agency	<b>Smithfield:</b> St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St. Philip Church
<b>Lincoln:</b> Connecting for Children & Families	<b>Wakefield:</b> Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale
<b>Middletown:</b> Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center	<b>Warwick:</b> Westbay Community Action Program
<b>Narragansett:</b> St. Peter’s by the Sea Church	<b>Woonsocket:</b> Connecting for Children & Families

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**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 55 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit [www.bankri.com](http://www.bankri.com). You can also find BankRI on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland](http://www.Facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland).

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