



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 27, 2017

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## **BankRI Food Drive Results in 46,000 Pounds for Local Pantries through Branch Collections, Charitable Grants**

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – Thanks to the generosity of **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)**, its customers and staff, fifteen local food pantries are restocking their shelves to meet the needs of their communities following the Bank’s recent food drive.

From August 1 through September 22, each of BankRI’s 20 branches statewide collected food on behalf of its food pantry partner. In addition to the food collected in branches, BankRI awarded each pantry a charitable grant earmarked for the purchase of additional food through the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. **In total, the drive will provide more than 46,000 pounds to help feed hungry Rhode Islanders.**

“Our annual food drive continues to be an effort that our customers and everyone at the Bank gets behind as a way to help our neighbors in need,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO of BankRI. “In particular, we pleased to be able to provide philanthropic dollars—in addition to our branch collections—so pantries have the ability to acquire more food when it’s needed most during the coming months.”

Throughout the 7-week drive, which coincided with the Food Bank’s Summer Food Drive and a time of continued need, BankRI branches partnered with a food pantry that serves its community to ensure the food collected would remain local. All of the drive’s pantry partners are members of the Food Bank’s network of emergency food programs, and the charitable grant received by each will allow for the leveraging of an additional 3,000 pounds of food.

“Once again, BankRI has stepped up to support our Summer Food Drive by donating funds and collecting food at their branches,” said RI Community Food Bank CEO Andrew Schiff. “We appreciate their commitment to our mission and the generosity of the many customers who reached out to help put food on the tables of their fellow Rhode Islanders.”

Food pantries benefitting from this year’s BankRI collection 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-Town 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	<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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