



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Outpouring of Generosity for BankRI’s “Holiday Giving Tree”
Results in More than 1,200 Gifts for Underprivileged Local Children**

Bank customers, staff, and members of the community help to brighten the season for those less fortunate during 19th annual holiday effort

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – For more than three weeks, gifts earmarked for local children in need poured into **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** branches across the state as part of the Bank’s 19th annual “Holiday Giving Tree.” The outpouring of generosity by BankRI customers, staff, and members of the community led to more than 1,200 gifts to help brighten the season for underprivileged children served by the Bank’s nonprofit partners.

All of the gifts collected during the Holiday Giving Tree have been picked up by BankRI’s nonprofit partners to ensure they’re distributed to children in advance of the December 25 holiday.

“Our Holiday Giving Tree not only captures the spirit of the season and the importance of helping others, it also highlights the sentiment that it truly is better to give than to receive,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO of BankRI. “Nineteen years after first beginning this tradition, I continue to be amazed at the generosity of our community—thank you to everyone who helped to make this year’s effort such a success.”

Beginning November 25 and continuing through December 17, each BankRI branch displayed a Holiday Giving Tree in its lobby, decorated with ornaments representing the holiday wishes of children served by that branch’s nonprofit partner. Throughout the effort, Bank customers, staff, and members of the community selected ornaments to grant children’s wishes, returning to place the donated gifts beneath the Holiday Giving Tree. Among the many gifts collected were scores of superhero toys, board games, plush friends, princess play sets, toy cars and trucks, Legos, sporting equipment, and more.

Nonprofit partners of BankRI’s 19th annual Holiday Giving Tree include: Adoption Rhode Island, Aids Care Ocean State, Boys & Girls Clubs of Warwick, Community Care Alliance, Connecting for Children & Families, Domestic Violence Program of Crossroads Rhode Island, East Bay Community Action Program, Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center, Kingstown Crossings, SSTARbirth, 'Tis the Season Coventry/West Greenwich, Town of East Greenwich Department of Human Services, Tri-Town Community Action, and Welcome House of South County.

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 19 branches and more than 55 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent 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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