



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BankRI Branches to Host 7-Week Food Drive Beginning August 3 to Support Local Food Pantries

Food will be distributed to local food pantries in each branch’s community to feed families in need

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – To help its neighbors in need and support the Rhode Island Community Food Bank’s critically-important Summer Food Drive, **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** will kick-off its annual food drive on Monday, August 3 at each of its 19 branches. The drive will continue until Friday, September 25.

Throughout the 7-week drive, each BankRI branch has partnered with a food pantry that serves its community, helping pantries fill a vital gap during the late summer when the need increases and donations tend to slow. All of the food collected by each branch will remain local to feed area residents in need.

“Each year, the response to our food drive by customers and staff has been nothing short of tremendous; everyone understands the importance of helping our neighbors struggling to make ends meet, particularly with a need as basic as food,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO of BankRI. “Every donation of food we receive, no matter the size, will help our food pantry partners have the resources they need to ensure no one goes without a nutritious meal—I have no doubt the community will respond generously.”

Beginning August 3, each BankRI location will have prominently placed food collection bins in their lobbies. Members of the community are encouraged to donate items most-needed by local food pantries, including: peanut butter, tuna, canned and dried beans, nutritious breakfast cereals, whole wheat pasta, brown rice, granola bars, tomato sauce, and canned fruits and vegetables. Each benefitting food pantry is a member of the Food Bank’s network of emergency food programs. BankRI branches and their pantry partners are:

| Branch Location | Food Pantry |
|--|--|
| Coventry | Coventry Friends of Human Services |
| Cranston: Atwood Ave., Park Ave., Plainfield Pike | Comprehensive Community Action |
| East Greenwich | East Greenwich Interfaith Food Cupboard |
| E. Providence: Taunton Ave., South Broadway | East Bay Community Action Program |
| Johnston | Tri-Town Community Action Agency |
| North Kingstown | North Kingstown Food Pantry |
| Pawtucket | Blackstone Valley Emergency Food Center |
| Providence: East Side | Women’s Center of Rhode Island |
| Providence: Turks Head | Providence In-town Churches Association Food Pantry |
| Smithfield | St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry at St. Philip Church |
| Wakefield | Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale |
| Warwick: Buttonwoods, Centerville Rd., Warwick Ave. | Westbay Community Action Program |
| Woonsocket & Lincoln | Connecting for Children & Families |

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In addition to the food collected, BankRI will provide a \$3,900 grant to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank for the acquisition of food on behalf of each partnering food pantry. Each month, the Food Bank serves more than 60,000 Rhode Islanders through its network of emergency food programs, an increase of nearly 60 percent from just four years ago.

To find the BankRI branch closest to you, please visit www.BANKRHODEISLAND.COM.

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.BANKRHODEISLAND.com.

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