



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**BankRI “Holiday Giving Tree” Program Begins on November 1,  
Community Invited to Help Brighten the Season for Children in Need**

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – Bank Rhode Island (BankRI) is getting into the spirit of the season a little early this year with hopes of putting smiles on the faces of as many children as possible this December. The Bank will kick-off its long-running *Holiday Giving Tree* program on November 1 at all twenty of its branches to collect gifts for underprivileged kids served by local nonprofits.

The signature program is now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year, and led to more than 2,600 gifts in 2020 – its most successful effort ever.

“This is a program that people really look forward to supporting because of the difference it makes for children,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO of BankRI. “We know there are families still struggling, which is why we wanted to begin early this year and make it easier to participate.”

Starting Monday, November 1, all BankRI branches will display a *Holiday Giving Tree* in their lobby, decorated with ornaments that feature the name, age, and holiday wish of a child served by that branch’s nonprofit partner. Throughout the nearly six-week effort, customers and members of the community are invited to visit a branch to select an ornament and provide a gift for that child. Once a gift has been purchased, donors may return to their branch to place the unwrapped present beneath the tree with the original ornament attached to the gift.

Those interested in participating but unable to visit a BankRI due to health or other concerns, may call their local branch to request ornament information or to schedule a curbside drop-off of a donated gift. Branch information and numbers can be found at [www.BankRI.com/locations](http://www.BankRI.com/locations).

**BankRI’s nonprofit partners for the 24<sup>th</sup> annual *Holiday Giving Tree* program are:**

Adoption Rhode Island	East Bay Community Action Program
AIDS Care Ocean State	Jonnycake Center for Hope
Angels in Action RI	Kingstown Crossings
Boys & Girls Clubs of Warwick	Lucy’s Hearth
Community Care Alliance	Providence Housing Authority
Comprehensive Community Action Program	SSTARbirth
Connecting for Children & Families	Town of Lincoln Holiday Basket Program
Domestic Violence Program of CrossroadsRI	Tri-County Community Action Agency

Please note: current health and safety guidelines are in place at all BankRI locations. Please do not visit a branch if you are not feeling well.

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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 30 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit [www.bankri.com](http://www.bankri.com).*

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