



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **In its Biggest Year Ever, BankRI's *Holiday Giving Tree* leads to 3,708 Gifts for Kids**

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – More than 1,000 children across the state are enjoying a brighter holiday season thanks to the overwhelming generosity of Bank Rhode Island (BankRI) customers, staff, and the community. In its 24<sup>th</sup> year, the Bank's annual Holiday Giving Tree program saw its largest collection ever, leading to 3,708 gifts for kids served by local nonprofits.

"This was an incredible display of kindness by people wanting to help make a real difference at a time of year that so many children look forward to," said Mark J. Meiklejohn, BankRI's president and CEO. "We all understand the current times, so seeing our longstanding Giving Tree program have its best year yet is very special. I'm grateful to everyone who gave."

Beginning November 1, all BankRI branches displayed a giving tree in their lobby, decorated with ornaments representing the holiday wish of a child served by that branch's nonprofit partner. Throughout the effort, people selected ornaments and later returned to that branch to place their donated gifts beneath the tree. To ensure everyone had the opportunity to participate while remaining safe, BankRI also offered ornament information by phone and curbside drop-off of presents.

As of December 21, all gifts have been given to the Bank's nonprofit partners for distribution to children, making sure they would reach their new homes in time for the holiday.

BankRI's nonprofit partners for the 2021 Holiday Giving Tree program are: Adoption Rhode Island, AIDS Care Ocean State, Angel in Action RI, Boys & Girls Clubs of Warwick, Community Care Alliance, Comprehensive Community Action Program, Connecting for Children and Families, Domestic Violence Program of CrossroadsRI, East Bay Community Action Program, Jonnycake Center for Hope, Kingstown Crossings, Lucy's Hearth, Providence Housing Authority, SSTARbirth, Town of Lincoln Holiday Basket Program, and Tri-County Community Action Agency.

### **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 40 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](#).

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