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## BankRI Invites Community to Help Brighten the Season for Local Children, 25<sup>th</sup> Annual “Holiday Giving Tree” Program Kicks Off November 1

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Marking a generation of helping to brighten the season for children in need, Bank Rhode Island (BankRI) kicks off its 25<sup>th</sup> annual *Holiday Giving Tree* program. The signature effort collects gifts for underprivileged kids served by local nonprofits. It begins November 1 at all twenty of the bank’s branch locations and will continue through mid-December.

“It’s incredible when you stop and think, not only about the sheer number of gifts this program has provided to kids over the years, but also the amazing generosity of Rhode Islanders,” said Will Tsonos, BankRI’s new president and CEO. “Our community and staff drive this program, and I know those who are able to participate are eager to make a difference, especially at this time of year.”

As of November 1, all BankRI branches display a *Holiday Giving Tree* in their lobby, decorated with ornaments featuring the name, age, and holiday wish of a child served by that branch’s nonprofit partner. During the nearly six-week program, customers and community members are invited to visit their [local branch](#) to select an ornament and provide a gift for that child. After purchasing the gift, donors return to their branch and place the unwrapped present beneath the tree with the original ornament attached.

BankRI’s nonprofit partners for the *Holiday Giving Tree* and the branch collecting on their behalf are:

<b>Adoption Rhode Island</b> (Pawtucket)	<b>House of Hope</b> (East Greenwich)
<b>AIDS Care Ocean State</b> (Park Ave., Cranston)	<b>Jonnycake Center for Hope</b> (Wakefield)
<b>Angel in Action RI</b> (Coventry)	<b>Kingstown Crossings</b> (North Kingstown)
<b>Boys &amp; Girls Clubs of Warwick</b> (All 3 Warwick branches)	<b>Lucy’s Hearth</b> (Middletown)
<b>Comprehensive Community Action Program</b> (Plainfield Pike, Cranston)	<b>Providence Housing Authority</b> (Turks Head, Downtown Providence)
<b>Connecting for Children &amp; Families</b> (Woonsocket)	<b>SSTARbirth</b> (Atwood Ave., Cranston)
<b>Domestic Violence Program of Crossroads RI</b> (East Side, Providence)	<b>Town of Lincoln Holiday Basket Program</b> (Lincoln)
<b>East Bay Community Action Program</b> (Both East Providence branches)	<b>Tri-County Community Action Agency</b> (Johnston + Smithfield)

Those who wish to participate but are unable to visit a BankRI location may call their closest branch to request ornament information or to schedule a curbside drop-off of their donated gift. Branch information can be found at [www.BankRI.com/locations](http://www.BankRI.com/locations).

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