

Connecticut Food Bank presents...

Volunteer Voices

March 2011 | Volume 8-1

Thank you for your support in 2010!

Your help makes a difference

Thanks to the many volunteers, donors and community partners, in 2010 Connecticut Food Bank:

- Distributed nearly **15 million pounds of food**,
- Served **1,600 students in more than 60 schools**,
- Launched the **Mobile Food Pantry**,
- Added a **Walk Against Hunger** in Bridgeport; and
- Initiated the interactive group learning experience known as **Hunger 101**.

In addition, 24,516 turkeys and more than 360 tons of trimmings were collected during the annual **Thanksgiving For All** campaign.

The **Quota Club of New Haven** tripled its time commitment to the Kids' Backpack Program. Regulars like Tom & Kathy, Lynn, Joyce & Henry, Laurence, Flora, Jean, Lorraine, Jayme, Marie and John

volunteered week after week, and month after month to sort food and provide office help. **Unilever** employees turned out in force to cover an entire day of food drive shifts in November.



Twenty members of the **Junior League of Greater New Haven** dedicated the time to collect food and funds at the Yale vs. Princeton game. In October, it took more than 600 volunteer hours to pick 60,425 pounds of apples (the entire orchard's harvest) donated by Washington Depot's **Hallock Orchard and the DiBenedetto family**. In all, 1,190 individuals contributed 12,686 hours of service in 2010. That number includes the time given by 94 corporate, religious, educational and civic groups that partnered with us in the fight against hunger. **Home Depot, Target, Wal-Mart, Cisco, Foundation Source, Pepperidge Farm and Sikorsky** are among the many groups donating time and effort.



Your continued support is needed in 2011

Though we've had many successes in 2010, the Food Research Action Center data analysis from July 2009 through June 2010 shows that food hardship in Connecticut decreased less than one percent. In 2011, the need for services remains high with almost 15 percent of Connecticut households reporting they've not always been able to afford the food they need. Additional events, food and funds are required to help those in need. Ultimately, we need the continued support of volunteers and donors. You are the hope that many food-insecure families in Connecticut cling to. I look forward to continuing to work with you in 2011 to take that hope one step closer to reality. Together we can; you **do** make a difference. Thank you!



Kim Damien, Volunteer Coordinator

CONNECTICUT
food bank

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A Member of
FEEDING AMERICA

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

COMING THIS SPRING

Join us at the 2011 Walk Against Hunger

Take action against hunger and invite your family, friends and co-workers to join you for the fun event. Walks are in New Haven, Bridgeport and Waterbury and are 2.5 to 3 miles in length.



Register your team *today* at:

www.ctfoodbank.org/walkagainsthunger

- May 1 35th Annual Greater New Haven Walk Against Hunger
East Rock Park, New Haven
- May 14 National Association of Letter Carriers
Stamp Out Hunger food drives
- May 15 2nd Annual Greater Bridgeport Walk Against Hunger
Seaside Park, Bridgeport
- May 22 6th Annual Greater Waterbury Walk Against Hunger
Library Park, Waterbury

OTHER NOTEWORTHY DATES

- May 30 All Connecticut Food Bank locations closed in observance of Memorial Day
- June 8 Taste of the Nation at the Commons, Woolsey Hall at Yale
Look for updates on www.ctfoodbank.org, and www.strength.org/Newhaven

Questions? Comments?
Wish to Volunteer?

Contact:

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GOOD NEWS



Successful Living by Harry Adams

At the end of my senior year in high school, the student newspaper took a poll asking this question: which graduate in this class is most likely to succeed? It is clearly a meaningful question. As they are setting out in life, most young people want to succeed. But what does it mean to succeed? Obviously, there are many definitions of success: to make a lot of money, to be competent in a profession or a trade, to have a big house, to create a prosperous business, to be respected by others in the community, to have a prestigious position, to be a leader.

It must be said, of course, that what defines success for any person is related to his or her talents, abilities, interests. We don't all succeed in the same way, and how one person defines success may be totally irrelevant for another person. But it must also be said that frequently success is defined by what we have gotten for ourselves, in the way of material gain or recognition.

There are many meaningful definitions of success. But volunteers have gained a somewhat different perspective on what it means to create a successful life. Julie Salamon in her book "Ramban's Ladder" put it this way: "Central to giving are conscientiousness and consciousness. These make us aware of our common humanity. They remind us that in the end we are not measured by what we have, but by what we give to one another."

Harry Adams was a faculty member and chaplain at Yale University for 45 years and is a member of the Connecticut Food Bank volunteer family.