



November 10, 2011

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## **Connecticut Food Bank “Thanksgiving for All” Campaign Under Way**

*Thousands of families to benefit from food and fund drives this holiday season*

**East Haven, CT** – Connecticut Food Bank is once again partnering with local media, grocery stores and businesses for its 2011 “Thanksgiving for All” campaign, a series of special events, food drives and fundraisers to benefit individuals and families in need of food assistance during the holiday season and the cold winter months that follow.

The turkeys and “trimmings” collected will be distributed by Connecticut Food Bank to food-assistance programs in the days before Thanksgiving. The funds are being used to purchase additional holiday food and for the distribution of the donated food throughout Connecticut.

Last year, Connecticut Food Bank distributed enough turkeys and trimmings to provide an estimated 790,000 meals for people in need during the holiday season. Every food and fund drive is critical, not only to collect food and funds, but to increase awareness about the ongoing problem of hunger and poverty that many Connecticut residents continue to face. One out of every seven households in Connecticut is struggling to keep food on the table.

“The number of Connecticut families turning to food-assistance programs for help continues to rise, and many of our member agencies are reporting an average 30 percent increase in demand for their services,” said Nancy L. Carrington, President & CEO of Connecticut Food Bank. “Many of these families are turning to food-assistance programs for the very first time. We need to collect as many frozen turkeys and other food items for families and individuals who might not have a holiday meal, or any meal, this time of year.”

### **“Thanksgiving for All 2011” Food Drive events include:**

- **Stuff-A-Truck.** Saturday, November 12, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Help stuff a truck to feed your neighbors in need. Unilever, in partnership with Stop & Shop, is donating 1.2 million meals this year for a \$150,000 contribution provided to Feeding America and its local member food banks. Stop & Shop, 855 Bridgeport Avenue, Milford.
- **99.1 WPLR “Phil the Bowl” Food Drive.** November 16 -18. Donate 10 non-perishables, a frozen turkey or \$10 and receive two tickets to the Yale vs. Harvard game on Saturday, November 19, kick off at noon. WPLR is broadcasting live

throughout the drive. Wednesday and Thursday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Big Y, 345 Washington Avenue, North Haven.

- **“Star 99.9 Food for Friends.** November 17, 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. Star 99.9 is collecting non-perishables, frozen turkeys and financial donations to support Connecticut Food Bank!  
Stop & Shop, Orange, 259 Bull Hill Lane  
Stop & Shop, Shelton, 898 Bridgeport Avenue  
Stop & Shop, Westport, 1790 Post Road East
- **KC 101 Stuff-a-Bus.** November 18 & 19. Collecting frozen turkeys, non-perishables and financial donations. Friday, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
ShopRite Plaza, 2100 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden
- **WATR Big Heart at Big Y.** November 18 & 19. Collecting frozen turkeys, non-perishables and financial donations. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Big Y, 85 Bridge Street, Naugatuck
- **“Fill the Bowl” at Yale Bowl.** Saturday, November 19. Presented by News 8, 99.1WPLR and Yale Athletics. Support Connecticut Food Bank by donating a frozen turkey or non-perishables and receive 2 tickets to the Yale vs. Harvard game! Collection takes place when gates open until halftime. Kick-off at noon. Yale Bowl, 250 Derby Avenue, New Haven.
- **Radio 104.1 Friends of Maze Food Drive.** November 20 & 21. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Monday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Connecticut Food Bank and friends at Radio 104.1 will be collecting non-perishables, frozen turkeys and cash donations. ShopRite, 846 North Colony Road, Wallingford.
- **i95 Camping for Cans.** Monday, November 21 – 23, 5 to 10 a.m., Stop & Shop, 72 Newtown Rd., Danbury

#### **Connecticut Food Bank Fund Drives include:**

- **Check Out Hunger.** Price Chopper, ShopRite and Balducci’s stores through November 30. Add a \$1, \$3 or \$5 donation tag to your grocery bill and the funds will be donated to Connecticut Food Bank.
- **Food for Friends.** Stop & Shop stores through December 8. Add a \$1, \$3 or \$5 donation tag to your grocery bill and the funds will be donated to help those in need!

In addition, Connecticut Food Bank warehouses in East Haven, Fairfield and Waterbury will have extended holiday hours to accept food and monetary donations from the public. Visit [www.ctfoodbank.org](http://www.ctfoodbank.org) for holiday hours and directions.

Those unable to get to a food drive may donate a turkey or other items at Connecticut Food Bank’s Virtual Food Drive at [www.ctfoodbank.org](http://www.ctfoodbank.org).

For event or warehouse information call (203) 469-5000 or visit [www.ctfoodbank.org](http://www.ctfoodbank.org).

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