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BJ'S Charitable Foundation Grants \$15,000 to Connecticut Food Bank

Award supports Fresh Produce Initiative

EAST HAVEN, CT – Connecticut Food Bank recently received a \$15,000 grant from the BJ's Charitable Foundation for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables for its Fresh Produce Initiative Program.

"Fresh fruits and vegetables are extremely nutritious but often lacking from the diets of low-income families who struggle with hunger," said Nancy L. Carrington, Connecticut Food Bank's President & CEO. "This generous grant from the BJ's Charitable Foundation will further our mission to provide nutritious food to people in need." Fresh produce is now one third of the food Connecticut Food Bank distributes to more than 650 food-assistance programs in six counties.

Another way Connecticut Food Bank provides fresh produce to people in need is through its Mobile Pantry sites. Each month the Mobile Pantry truck travels to more than 25 locations throughout Connecticut, giving approximately 4,000 households healthy food choices that include fresh vegetables and fruit.

The BJ's Charitable Foundation is dedicated to supporting hunger prevention, self sufficiency, healthcare and education in the communities surrounding our Clubs," said Jessica Newman, Executive Director of the BJ's Charitable Foundation. "BJ's Charitable Foundation donated a total of \$754,220 to 108 nonprofit charitable organizations across our footprint during this grant cycle, and we hope these donations benefit the incredible efforts of our partners working to impact the lives of individuals and families and enable them to continue to provide crucial services to those in need."

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Connecticut Food Bank serves more than 650 local emergency food-assistance programs in six of Connecticut's eight counties: Fairfield, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham. Connecticut Food Bank distributes an average of 36 tons of food every business day.

About BJ's Charitable Foundation

BJ's Charitable Foundation was established with the mission to enrich every community BJ's Wholesale Clubs serve. The Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that primarily benefit the underprivileged in the area of basic needs (hunger prevention, self-sufficiency, education and health). For more information about BJ's Charitable Foundation, please visit, www.bjs.com/charity.