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## **Unilever Grant Provides Nutritious Meals to Children in New Haven**

### ***\$20,000 Grant Will Support Connecticut Food Bank's "Kids' Backpack Program"***

**EAST HAVEN, CT** — The Unilever US Foundation, in the name of its Trumbull, CT, Research and Development office, is providing a \$20,000 grant to Connecticut Food Bank as part of a national commitment of \$200,000 to address child hunger. Grants are being made to 10 Feeding America member food banks through a partnership between Unilever and Feeding America, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity.

The Trumbull plant, which makes products such as Ponds, Lux, Dove, Axe, Vaseline, Lifebuoy, Suave, Q-Tips, Degree and Lever 2000, has worked with Connecticut Food Bank for more than 10 years. In addition to this donation, plant employees will be personally collecting and delivering food, as well as volunteering at the food bank.

"This grant is part of our ongoing commitment to improving the lives of people in the communities in which we serve. We are thrilled to be working with Connecticut Food Bank to support those in need," said Wendy Herrick, Vice President Logistics & Customer Service North America, Supply Chain for the Unilever Research and Development facility.

According to Connecticut Food Bank's President & CEO Nancy L. Carrington, the grant funds will be used to expand the Kids' Backpack Program in New Haven. "We are grateful for Unilever's continued support," said Carrington. "New Haven has the second highest child poverty rate for school districts in Connecticut, with nearly 34 percent of children in poverty. This donation will enable us to provide more children with nutritious meals on weekends when they lack access to school meals."

Based in communities where the company operates, Unilever is helping to support Feeding America programs that focus on child hunger, reaching children at times when they are most in need: in the summer, afterschool, and over weekends and during school vacations. One in five children in Connecticut, and the United States, is living in a food-insecure household.

Since 2007, Unilever has provided more than 20 million pounds of product and approximately \$3.3 million to help alleviate hunger. "Unilever has been a trusted partner to Feeding America for more than two decades," said Leah Ray, vice president of Corporate Partnerships at Feeding America. "We are grateful to Unilever for generously supporting child hunger programs that serve communities where their employees live and work and for their continued efforts to help fight hunger across the country."

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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.*