



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**IBEW 2323 and Verizon Collect Food & Funds**  
**for RI Community Food Bank**

*Money Donated will be Matched by Verizon to Help Even More Local Families*

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** – During the week of Christmas, members of Local IBEW 2323 at Verizon and Verizon Rhode Island employees made a special delivery to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.

As part of their commitment to giving back to the communities that they work in each day, the group collected and delivered more than 1,000 pounds of much-needed food to the Food Bank. In addition to their food collection, members of the IBEW 2323 and Verizon employees collected over \$3,000, which will be matched by Verizon, to help the hungry of our state.

“The emphasis of the IBEW 2323 at Verizon, especially at this time of year, is to give back to the communities we work in each and every day,” commented Bill McGowan, Business Manager for the IBEW 2323. “Each year our staff looks forward to helping families who otherwise may have gone without, have a brighter holiday,” added McGowan. “Despite the tough economic times, I am proud that this year’s collection was our most successful.”

Currently, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank is feeding over 40,000 Rhode Islanders each month through a network of 285 certified member agency programs. This reflects a 12% increase over last year. In the last year, emergency food programs of the Food Bank served 10 million meals to Rhode Islanders in need.

Additionally, nearly 11% of all Rhode Islanders, representing 115,000 people, are at risk of going hungry.

**The Rhode Island Community Food Bank** is a non-profit organization located in Providence, RI. The Food Bank solicits, stores and distributes food products donated by supermarkets, wholesalers, food processors, local farmers and community food drives. The food is then distributed to the Food Bank’s network of 285 member agencies. In the past fiscal year, the Food Bank distributed 8.3 million pounds of food. For more information about the Food Bank, please visit [www.rifoodbank.org](http://www.rifoodbank.org)

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