



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **Lieutenant Governor Roberts Tours RI Community Food Bank and Lends Support to the Agency s Work**

*In Light of Difficult Times, Food Bank Continuing to Make a Difference for Thousands  
Thanks to Community Support*

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** On Wednesday morning, Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Roberts visited the Rhode Island Community Food Bank to tour the organization s 66,000 square-foot facility. With much focus surrounding the state s budget deficit and looming cuts to social service programs, the Food Bank continues to work hard to provide food assistance to those who need it most.

The work of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank is truly remarkable, commented Lt. Governor Roberts. Over the past 25 years, they have worked tirelessly to help our neighbors in need and have fully entrenched themselves as a crucial resource, a safety-net, for those who may otherwise go without. ”

Established in 1982, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank is a private charitable non-profit that relies upon community support in order to offer its services. The support of the community is critical to our work, added Andrew Schiff, Executive Director of the Food Bank. Without the generosity of thousands of Rhode Islanders, we wouldnt be able to provide the assistance that help so many. Only 9% of our annual budget comes from State and Federal funding, finished Schiff.

For every dollar donated to the Food Bank, the organization can provide 3 healthy meals to those in need. If you would like to make a contribution, checks made payable to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank may be sent to 200 Niantic Avenue in Providence, 02907. Additionally, you can visit [www.rifoodbank.org](http://www.rifoodbank.org) to make a secure, on-line donation.

Seeing the entire operation, first-hand and up-close, was eye-opening. More than 8 million pounds of food left this facility over the course of the past 12 months, added the Lt. Governor.

Currently, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank is feeding tens of thousands of Rhode Islanders in need each month through a network of over 300 certified member agency programs. A recent USDA statistical study on food insecurity shows that over 17% of Rhode Island s children, 1 out of every 6, are at risk of not knowing where their next meal will come from. Additionally, 11.3% of Rhode Island households, representing 48,000 families, cannot afford adequate food.

**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 over 300 member agency programs. In the past fiscal year, the Food Bank distributed 8.4 million pounds of food. For more information about the Food Bank, please visit [www.rifoodbank.org](http://www.rifoodbank.org)

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