



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Scouting for Food Generates 280,000 Pounds of Food for Needy Families**

*Donations Will Help RI Community Food Bank Meet Increased Demands*

**East Providence, RI** – Over the past two weeks, thousands of Scouts from the Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America, canvassed the local region to collect food for the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. As a result, more than 280,000 pounds of canned goods were donated from the community, and it is estimated more than 300,000 pounds will be collected by the end of the campaign. There is still time to donate – as Rhode Island Walgreens locations accept donations until Nov. 18. The Scouting for Food drive has been a tradition of the Narragansett Council Scouts for 24 years.

“The annual drive reinforces the Scout slogan ‘Do A Good Turn Daily,’” said Dave Anderson, Scout Executive of the Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America. “We are proud of the hard work and the huge number of Scouts that help make the drive a success year after year. It’s a true testament to the lessons and values Scouting teaches our youth,” added Anderson.

Since the drive’s inception in 1988, the Narragansett Council has collected over 7.2 million pounds of food for Rhode Island, Southeastern Massachusetts and Connecticut. Over 200 Scouting Packs and Troops participated in this year’s drive. The annual drive is the most significant, annual community service event for the Narragansett Council.

In an economy that has been slow to recover, more and more local families have been hit hard and look to the Food Bank for help, especially as the winter season quickly approaches. The need is there and despite hard times, the Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America, was still able to collect 280,000 pounds of food this year through the drive.

“The tremendous effort of the Boy Scouts during this food drive sets a great example for all of us as we head into the holiday season,” says Andrew Schiff, CEO of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. “In every community, there are families struggling to put enough food on the table. The Scouting for Food Drive will make a real difference to our neighbors in need.”

“The Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America and the Rhode Island Community Food Bank would like to extend our gratitude to everyone who participated and donated to the drive this year,” noted Anderson.

**There is still time to donate to the drive. Please visit your local Rhode Island Walgreens store to drop-off donations by November 18.**

Scouting for Food is a cooperative effort supported by the Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, Walgreens, WPRI-12 News, Fox Providence, the Rhode Island National Guard, The Valley Breeze and area fire stations.

**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 statewide network of nearly 250 member agency programs. In the past fiscal year, the Food Bank distributed 9.4 million pounds of food. For more information about the Food Bank, please visit [www.rifoodbank.org](http://www.rifoodbank.org).

#### **About the Narragansett Council**

The Narragansett Council, Boy Scouts of America’s mission is to serve others by helping to instill values in young people and, in other ways, prepare them to make ethical choices over their lifetime in achieving their full potential. The Narragansett Council offers a program for boys and young men ages 6 to 21 and young women ages 14 to 21. Scouting’s program stresses action-oriented activities that challenge young people to learn and grow. The Council serves more than 11,000 young people through Boy Scouting, Cub Scouting, Venturing, Exploring and the school based Learning for Life character education program. The Narragansett Council serves Rhode Island, Southeastern Massachusetts, and Pawcatuck, Connecticut. For more information, please log on to [www.narragansettbsa.org](http://www.narragansettbsa.org).

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