



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9, 2011

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**Food Bank Kicks Off Holiday Meal Drive  
with Donation of 1,000 Turkeys from Stop & Shop**  
*Holiday Meal Drive Open House Set for Saturday, Dec. 3*

PROVIDENCE, RI – On Wed. Nov. 9, Stop & Shop’s Turkey Express truck delivered 1,000 Thanksgiving turkeys to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, officially kicking off its Holiday Meal Drive. The delivery is one of 16 stops on Stop & Shop’s Turkey Express route. Stop & Shop will donate a total of 20,000 turkeys to local food banks throughout the Northeast through Thanksgiving.

“Given the high demand for resources this year, food banks are stretched to do more with less,” said Suzi Robinson for Stop & Shop New England. “We’re pleased to be able to continue to offer these food banks relief and help feed nearly 200,000 people this holiday season.”

More than 60,000 Rhode Islanders rely on the Rhode Island Community Food Bank’s statewide network of emergency food pantries to help meet their basic food needs. This holiday, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank has a goal of collecting an additional 350,000 lbs. of food to help them serve Rhode Islanders in need.

“This significant contribution from Stop & Shop gets us off to a strong start on a critically important food drive,” says Andrew Schiff, CEO of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. “Most of us think of the holidays as a time of bounty, but many people in Rhode Island are struggling to put food on the table for their families every day of the year. We deeply appreciate Stop & Shop’s commitment to their neighbors in need.”

**Holiday Meal Drive Runs Through Dec. 30**

Between now and Dec. 30, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank will be accepting donations of non-perishable food every weekday between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at its facility at 200 Niantic Avenue in Providence. Most needed items include: peanut butter, canned tuna, canned fruits and vegetables, dried or canned beans, pasta, rice, breakfast cereal, and canned soups, stews or chili.

**Holiday Meal Drive Open House Set for Saturday, Dec. 3**

The Rhode Island Community Food Bank will hold a Holiday Meal Drive Open House on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 9 a.m. to Noon at its offices at 200 Niantic Avenue in Providence. Individuals, families and groups are invited to bring their donations directly to the Food Bank, take a tour of the facility and enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies.

**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 more than 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).

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