

# Capital Region Food Program

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**HOLIDAY FOOD BASKET**

**PROJECT:**

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**YEAR ROUND DISTRIBUTION**

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **CAPITAL REGION FOOD PROGRAM PARTNER AGENCIES TO BENEFIT FROM "STAMP OUT HUNGER" FOOD DRIVE**

CONCORD, NH — The National Association of Letter Carriers, the United Way of Merrimack County and the Capital Region Food Program will partner together for their annual non-perishable food drive, Stamp Out Hunger, on Saturday, May 9, 2009.

On Saturday, May 9, postal carriers will pick up non-perishable food items when delivering mail during normal Saturday operations in areas with zip codes beginning with 033. Later that afternoon, donated food will be sorted by United Way of Merrimack County volunteers and distributed by the Capital Region Food Program to their partner agencies in 18 communities in the greater Concord area.

"During the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive in 2008, our generous greater Concord community donated over 7.5 tons of non-perishable food," states Elizabeth Hager, Executive Director of the United Way of Merrimack County. "We hope to exceed 9 tons of donated food this year."

"Our partner agency's resources continue to be stretched to the limit. This food drive allows us to help them stock their shelves and be of immediate assistance to those in Merrimack County who are in need," says Cheryl A. Elliott, Chair of the Capital Region Food Program's Board of Trustees.

Suitable non-perishable items for donation include such as canned fruit, vegetables, soups, and tuna, peanut butter, breakfast cereal, pastas, and pre-packaged snacks.

For more information about the Stamp Out Hunger food drive or to volunteer on May 9, please contact the United Way of Merrimack County at (603)224-2595. Visit [www.capitalregionfoodprogram.org](http://www.capitalregionfoodprogram.org) for a list of partner agencies supported by CRFP efforts.

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The Capital Region Food Program, in association with social service agencies, area food pantries, and church groups, has been dedicated to the elimination of hunger in Greater Concord Area since 1974 through distribution of food to individuals and families.

On an annual basis, the CRFP distributes over 100 tons of food through two initiatives. Thirty-five (35) tons of food is distributed through the Year Round Distribution Project which is held ten times throughout the year at Associated Grocers of New England. Sixty-five (65) tons of food is distributed through the program's Holiday Food Basket Project, held in partnership with the New Hampshire Army National Guard each December.

[www.capitalregionfoodprogram.org](http://www.capitalregionfoodprogram.org)

