FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jill Teeters
Public Relations Chair, Capital Region Food Program
603.344.8459
jillteeters@comcast.net

Capital Region Food Program Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The Capital Region Food Program will celebrate its 40th anniversary during its annual Holiday Food Basket Project, beginning on December 17 at the National Guard Armory in Concord. The first Holiday Food Basket Project was held in 1974.

More than 2,800 tons of food has been distributed by the program through both the Holiday Food Basket Project (HFBP) and Year Round Distribution Project (YRDP) since the program began. This translates into well over $2.5 million spent by the organization over the past four decades to fight hunger insecurity in the greater Concord area.

What Makes CRFP Unique

The Capital Region Food Program (CRFP) is not a food bank. It is a private, not-for-profit, 100% volunteer organization with no paid staff. Its two major programs are the annual Holiday Food Basket Project each December and the monthly Year Round Distribution Project. All food is distributed at no cost.

The program serves 18 communities in the Capital Region including: Allenstown, Boscowen, Bow, Canterbury, Chichester, Concord, Contoocook, Dunbarton, Epsom, Hopkinton, Loudon, Pembroke, Penacook, Pittsfield, Salisbury, Suncook, Warner and Webster.

Most importantly, 100% of every dollar contributed to the organization is used to purchase food. Any supplies, services, and expertise needed are provided as in-kind donations or services.

The program is supported by the spirit of corporate social responsibility and multi-generational leadership and volunteerism. Currently, we have many families working with us with their 3rd generation actively involved in the program.

The program utilizes a Just in Time (JIT) process with the Year Round Distribution Project. Therefore, there is no need for a brick and mortar facility. Participating agencies place an order which is filled and distributed the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Agencies pay NOTHING for the food. Oftentimes, agencies must purchase food from food banks (pennies on the dollar, but they have to pay for it). Additionally, they do not always have access to the food they want or need for their food pantries. With CRFP, they are guaranteed they will get the items on their order form.
**History of the Organization**

The CRFP was incorporated as a NH voluntary nonprofit organization in 1984. Prior to that time, the Holiday Food Basket Project was done under the umbrella of the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce. In 1982, it was recognized that the need had grown to more than just at the holidays. As a result, Mark E. Manus, former GCCC President, and several other civic leaders arranged to establish the Capital Region Food Program as a separate 501(C) 3 nonprofit organization. The organization received its advanced ruling from the IRS on May 17, 1984.

*From the start, the organization has been 100% volunteer driven.* This has remained intact since its inception. This is accomplished by strategic partnerships with local companies such as; Graf, Raulerson & Middleton, Grappone Companies, Lincoln Financial, Mason & Rich, McLane, Merrimack County Savings Bank, NH Army National Guard, Pleasant View Gardens, and others.

**2012 Holiday Food Basket Project Statistics**

More than 74 tons of food was distributed to over 2500 families in Concord and the surrounding 17 communities. Over 1,100 individuals volunteered for the 2012 project including elders and families, business people and civic leaders, recipients and social service professionals, second and third generations of volunteers, and so many others all with special stories of their own.

**Program Contacts & Additional Information**

**Chair:**  
Steven R. Painchaud  
capfood@capitalregionfoodprogram.org

**Holiday Food Basket Project Chair:**  
Maria Manus Painchaud  
hfbp@capitalregionfoodprogram.org

**Year Round Distribution Project Chair:**  
Elena M. Preston  
yrdp@capitalregionfoodprogram.org

**Public Relations Chair:**  
Jill Teeters  
jillteeters@comcast.net  603.344.8459

Visit [www.capitalregionfoodprogram.org](http://www.capitalregionfoodprogram.org) for more information on our services and how to get involved.