



News Release

For more information, please contact:

Shamia Holloway
645 Taylor Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017
202-526-5344 ext. 230
202-526-1253 fax
holloways@cfoodbank.org
www.CapitalAreaFoodBank.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK SEES FEWER CONTRIBUTIONS DURING SUMMER

AARP, LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP COLLECT FOOD AMIDST DECREASED DONATIONS

Washington, D.C., July 28, 2008 – As many residents in the nation’s capital plan vacations and seek refuge from the sweltering heat, more than 633,000 people are scrambling to find their next meal. Increases in the cost of food and medicine and record high gas prices have forced many local families into an economic crisis; driving them to seek food assistance from the Capital Area Food Bank and its 700 partner agencies.

Summer is especially challenging because many families and children often rely on free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch offered at school, however, when school is out the burden is placed on struggling families to provide food. Summer donations are also challenging as they tend to drop off during the hot months and pick up during the holiday seasons when people are more likely to give.

Several organizations throughout the Washington metro area, such as AARP, are hosting food drives benefiting the CAFB to help fill shelves during the summer months. AARP is hosting a food drive that will run from July 28 through August 1, 2008 at the organization’s headquarters. AARP is a leader when it comes to volunteering, offering an employee program called “Community Builders” which provides employees the opportunity to volunteer during regular work hours.

“Making a difference through service has been at the heart of the AARP’s mission for more than 50 years,” noted Jon Dauphine, AARP Senior Vice President for Outreach & Service. “Our employees are excited to help out with food collection needs to keep our neighbors healthy and safe this summer.”

The food collected will help provide food for the CAFB to distribute to its partner agencies and more importantly, the children, seniors and families at risk of hunger.

~more~

“Food and funds drives play an integral role in helping us feed those in need, especially at a time when donations are tapering off. We are thankful for AARP’s efforts in collecting food to help nourish those suffering from hunger in our nation’s capital,” said Lynn Brantley, president and CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank.

***The Capital Area Food Bank** is the largest public, nonprofit food and nutrition education resource in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area. Last year the Capital Area Food Bank distributed 20 million pounds of food through more than 700 partner agencies in the region. In Washington, D.C. 1 in 2 school age children is at risk of hunger; in Prince George’s and Montgomery Counties, 1 in 5; and in Northern Virginia, 1 in 6. In conjunction with our partner agencies, the CAFB helps nourish children, seniors and families in need. The Capital Area Food Bank has served the National Capital Region for over 28 years. For more information, visit our web site at www.CapitalAreaFoodBank.org.*

###

