



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK CALLS ON FURLOUGHED WORKERS TO VOLUNTEER

Washington, DC, Oct. 7 – Nancy Roman, President and CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank, today welcomed any furloughed federal employee who is able to volunteer, to visit one of the two food bank locations in the Washington metro area and spend some time sorting donated food and packing weekend bags.

Roman said, “If you are wondering what to do today, you should consider volunteering at either of our two distribution centers. We can certainly use your help as we ramp up our efforts to serve our neighbors who are at risk of hunger. You are always welcome, even after the shutdown.”

The Capital Area Food Bank distributes 45 million pounds of food annually to 500,000 food insecure individuals in the region. Volunteers, numbering 21,000 a year, play a critical role in the food bank’s operation.

The two food distribution center locations are: 4900 Puerto Rico Ave., NE Washington, DC and the Northern Virginia Branch at 6833 Hill Park Drive Lorton, VA.

Hailing from a number of federal agencies, the White House and the University of the District of Columbia, about four dozen individuals made good use of their time away from their offices last Friday by volunteering at the CAFB. One of them who came with a group of friends said, “People in the federal government care about service. That’s why we’re here.”

Included among last week’s volunteers were a number government employees who participated in Feds Feed Families, the recently concluded three-month government food drive run by the USDA that encourages federal employees to participate in an annual national food drive. The agencies compete with each other for the largest donations and everything that’s collected goes to local food banks.

The Capital Area Food Bank, a member of Feeding America, was founded on January 15 – Martin Luther King’s birthday – in 1980 and takes a comprehensive approach to addressing hunger by increasing access to nutritious food, initiating change through skill-building and advocacy, and creating sustainability with outreach and training for those at risk of hunger. The CAFB is the Washington metro area’s largest public, nonprofit food and nutrition education resource. For more information, go to www.capitalareafoodbank.org

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