



## Media Advisory

For more information, please contact:

Dylan Menguy  
Capital Area Food Bank  
202-644-9822  
585-472-0500 (cell)  
dmenguy@capitalareafoodbank.org

---

### Capital Area Food Bank and the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia Host Free Food Market for Manassas Park City School Children and their Families

*Monthly Food Market Initiative Will Reach 300+ Manassas Park Kids and Their Families who have Limited Access to Healthy Food*

**What:** The Capital Area Food Bank and the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia will unveil an innovative food distribution model to serve the low income children of the Manassas Park School District and their families for the 2015-2016 academic year on September 24, 2015. The Capital Area Food Bank uses a “Family Market” model that combines food distribution with parent-teacher interactions and nutrition education. Each family takes between 28 and 30 pounds of non-perishable food and fresh produce during a market day. The families learn how to prepare their food through cooking demonstrations, recipe cards in Spanish and English, and are exposed to new and innovative technologies like a green smoothie bike to make the experience fun for all ages.

**Who:** Cecelia Vergaretti, Senior Director of the Capital Area Food Bank's Northern Virginia Branch

Eileen Ellsworth, President of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia  
Dr. Bruce McDade, Superintendent of Manassas Park City Schools

**When:** Thursday, September 24, 2015  
4 PM - 6 PM

**Where:** Manassas Park High School  
8200 Euclid Avenue  
Manassas Park, VA 20111

**Why:** Thirteen percent of children living in the City of Manassas Park struggle daily to get the food they need. To address a growing need in the suburban reaches of the Washington metro area, The J.O.Y. Charitable Fund at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia made a grant of \$32,000 to fully support the Capital Area Food Bank’s Family Market Program for the City of Manassas Park at Manassas Park High School for the 2015-2016 school year. This grant will provide 6,000 pounds of food to over 200 families, ten times per year, in a community where 61% of school-aged children receive free and reduced-price lunches.

###

**About the Capital Area Food Bank**

The Capital Area Food Bank is the largest organization in the Washington metro area working to solve hunger and its companion problems: chronic undernutrition, heart disease and obesity. By partnering with nearly 470 community organizations in DC, Maryland and Virginia, as well as delivering food directly into hard to reach areas, the CAFB is helping 540,000 people each year get access to good, healthy food. That's 12 percent of our region's mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, and grandparents. To learn more, visit: [capitalareafoodbank.org](http://capitalareafoodbank.org), or find the Capital Area Food Bank on Facebook at [facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank](https://facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank), and Twitter at [@foodbankmetrodc](https://twitter.com/foodbankmetrodc).

### **About the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia**

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia helps grow philanthropy to meet the most critical needs of the community. Comprised of giving circles, donor advised funds, community investment funds and scholarship funds, we help connect donors to community, meet community needs with community resources, and strengthen Northern Virginia.

During FY2014, the Community Foundation:

- Awarded \$3.7 million in grants to nonprofits, interfaith groups and schools addressing critical community needs
- Awarded \$225,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors in our region
- Reported approximately \$35 million in philanthropic funds established by individual and corporate donors.

Find more information at [www.cfnova.org](http://www.cfnova.org)