



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK LAUNCHES ANNUAL *FOOD FROM THE BAR* CAMPAIGN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL LAW FIRMS

Food and fund drive, beginning April 28, will support the fight against hunger locally

WASHINGTON, DC, April 1 – The [Capital Area Food Bank](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org) (CAFB) today announced the launch of *Food From The Bar*, the Washington legal community’s annual fundraising campaign, with the ambitious goal of raising \$200,000 to help the food bank reach those at risk of hunger in the Washington metro area.

This year’s *Food From The Bar* campaign – from April 28 to May 30 – marks the sixth and largest effort to date, with dozens of local law firms, law schools and other legal professionals competing to raise funds and food for the campaign, formerly known as D.C. Outlaw Hunger. Specific campaign partners include *Legal Times*, the Women’s Bar Association of the District of Columbia, K&L Gates, and DLA Piper.

Since 2008, the Washington legal community has raised enough to support the equivalent of 1 million meals. With every \$10 raised, the food bank can distribute 25 meals to neighbors in need. Ninety-two cents out of every dollar donated to the CAFB supports hunger relief programs.

Nancy E. Roman, CAFB President and CEO, said “We are grateful to the local legal community for this important undertaking. As school ends, hunger begins for many D.C. youngsters who depend on free and reduced school lunch programs. *Food From The Bar* will enable the food bank to expand summer programs to fill the gap for children and their families.” She added, “California’s legal community has made *Food From The Bar* the biggest in the nation, but since Washington, D.C. is home to the most lawyers per capita in the country, we want to see the local legal community pull ahead of them overtime.”

Child hunger is a critical problem nationwide. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, nearly 17 million children in the United States live in households where they are unable to consistently access the nutritious food necessary for a healthy life. Washington, D.C. has the second highest child food insecurity rate of any other state in the nation, with 30 percent of children under the age of 18 living in food insecure households – meaning they have limited or uncertain access to nutritionally adequate foods.

“The appeal of *Food From The Bar* is that it’s fun and rewarding for law firms,” said the campaign’s Honorary Chairman Dick Thornburg, former U.S. Attorney General and Governor of Pennsylvania. “This year, our firm will kick off the competition by hosting a stand up comedy night and competitive interoffice challenges all-month long to benefit the Capital Area Food Bank,” he added.

The CAFB is the largest hunger relief organization in the Washington metro area serving 500,000 people through direct food distribution programs and a network of 500 partner agencies. Annually, the CAFB distributes 45 million pounds of food – the equivalent of 37.5 million meals – including 17.5 million pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables. A member of Feeding America, the food bank 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.

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Organizations interested in joining the campaign should contact Ella Daniels by April 21 at edaniels@capitalareafoodbank.org.

To learn more, visit: www.capitalareafoodbank.org, or find the Capital Area Food Bank on Facebook at [facebook.com/ CapitalAreaFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/CapitalAreaFoodBank), and Twitter at [@foodbankmetrodc](https://twitter.com/foodbankmetrodc).