

## **News Release**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## LOCAL LEGAL COMMUNITY EXCEEDS FUNDRAISING GOAL IN FOOD FROM THE BAR CAMPAIGN TO FIGHT HUNGER FOR THE CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK

## Funds totaling \$260,000 provide equivalent of 650,000 meals

WASHINGTON, DC, June 9, 2015 – <u>Capital Area Food Bank</u> (CAFB) today announced the final amount raised through the Washington legal community's annual fundraising campaign, *Food From The Bar*, in partnership with over 45 local law firms, law schools, and other legal professionals. The month-long campaign, in partnership with *The National Law Journal*, raised \$260,000 to help the Food Bank reach those at risk of hunger in the Washington metro area this summer.

This year's *Food From The Bar* campaign marked the seventh 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 DC Outlaw Hunger.

Since 2008, the Washington legal community has raised enough money to support the equivalent of 2 million meals. With every \$10 raised, the Food Bank can distribute 25 meals to neighbors in need. Thanks to the success of this year's campaign, CAFB can provide the equivalent of 650,000 meals to the greater D.C. community in the summer months, a time when funds coming into the organization are low and needs of families that usually depend on school lunch programs is high.

Ninety-two cents out of every dollar donated supports local hunger relief programs.

"The legal community of Washington, D.C., has made a contribution to tens of thousands of children, seniors and families and their overall wellness," said Nancy E. Roman, CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank, adding that the DC legal community's embrace of this issue has boosted their fundraising from \$40,000 to \$250,000 in two short years. "That kind of commitment can be transformative," said Roman who added that CAFB is using technology and nutritious food to lead the way in becoming a Next Generation Food Bank.

"This year's *Food From The Bar* campaign has not only given opportunity to the families in need in the Washington D.C. area, but the opportunity for all our volunteers to participate in something where you can visibly see the difference that your efforts are making," said Kelly Fisher, Co-Chair of the

2015 D.C. *Food From the Bar* Campaign. "2015 has brought us great success with raising over \$250,000, and we are so proud of our volunteers and the teams who put such great determination into making this campaign everything that it can be. We are more grateful than words can express."

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.

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