



News Release

For more information, please contact:

Page Crosland

Capital Area Food Bank

202-644-9816 (direct work)

202-285-2199 (cell)

202-529-1767 (fax)

pcrosland@capitalareafoodbank.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK WINS MORGAN STANLEY AWARD TO EXPAND PROGRAM DELIVERING NUTRITIOUS MEALS TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES *\$50,000 Grant Will Fund Family Markets Program*

WASHINGTON, DC, Jan. 9 – The Capital Area Food Bank today announced a \$50,000 grant from Morgan Stanley to fund its Family Markets Program, a child hunger initiative that helps to ensure that low-income families have a readily accessible source of healthy and nutritious food to prepare at home.

“We are expanding our current five Family Markets sites to a total of 16 sites between September 2013 and June 2014,” said Nancy E. Roman, CAFB President and CEO. “The food bank’s planning teams have determined that the Family Markets Program is the most effective way to contribute to the health and wellness of our communities as we provide more nutritious food across the Washington metro area to children and families who are at risk of hunger. Our expanded Family Markets will fill in the hunger safety net by providing up to 96,000 pounds a month to 3,200 families with school-aged children,” she said.

The local award is the latest phase of *Fill the Plate*, Morgan Stanley’s long-standing partnership with [Feeding America](#), the nation’s leading hunger-relief charity. In total, Morgan Stanley has committed more than \$13 million for the Feeding America network to distribute millions of meals to children and families across all 50 states. As part of that initiative, Morgan Stanley is providing more than \$4 million over four years to local food banks such as the Capital Area Food Bank to launch, expand and sustain critical childhood feeding programs.

“We are thrilled to receive this important grant from Morgan Stanley to fund our efforts to deliver more nutritious meals to children and families,” Roman said. She added, “What’s extraordinary and groundbreaking about this award is that we were able to choose how to use the funds in a way that best matches the nutritional health needs of the people we serve.”

The Capital Area Food Bank’s Family Markets Program helps to alleviate child hunger through the provision of food to children and their families. Located directly on school grounds, the pantry provides a more readily accessible source of food assistance to low-income students and their families. The site consistently operates in the same location, has set distribution schedules and offers ongoing food assistance services.

“Giving back to the communities where we live and work is one of Morgan Stanley’s core values,” said Jed Woelfle, Managing Director, Complex Manager, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, Washington D.C., Annapolis and Eastern Shore. “We are proud of our Firm’s grant to the Capital Area Food Bank, especially since so many of us are also long-time volunteers at this important community organization,” he said.

Nationwide, child hunger is a critical problem. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, nearly 16 million children in the United States live in households where they are unable to consistently access enough nutritious food necessary for a healthy life. Feeding America's most recent [Map the Meal Gap](#) research indicates more than one in five children in 37 states and Washington D.C. do not have access to enough nutritious food to learn, grow and thrive.

The Capital Area Food Bank 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. In 2012, the Capital Area Food Bank distributed 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, CAFB 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.

###

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).