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A member of

450 Woodland Ave, Bloomfield, CT 06002-1342
Phone (860) 286-9999 / Fax (860) 286-7860

MEDIA RELEASE

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Contact: Amanda Renna, Communications Specialist
work: (860) 286 – 9999

Foodshare Receives 16,188 Requests for Help this Thanksgiving *Community support is key to meeting this need for local families*

Bloomfield, CT – This morning Foodshare’s President and CEO James Arena-DeRosa announced the food bank’s goal for their annual Turkey and Thirty campaign. “This holiday, Foodshare has been asked to help 16,188 Greater Hartford residents join in the celebration by providing a traditional Thanksgiving turkey. These requests come directly from our partner programs—food pantries and community kitchens—who serve our neighbors in need. While this number remains high, we are encouraged by the downward trend in recent years, and look to our supporters to help make sure every one of those requests is filled.”

In addition to providing turkeys, Foodshare’s Turkey and Thirty Campaign raises hundreds of thousands of dollars to help put food on the table year-round and support long-term community-based solutions to hunger. “As a food bank we work hard to meet today’s need, but we also have a responsibility to our donors, to invest their money wisely. We can do that by focusing on initiatives that will put people back on the path to self-sufficiency,” says Arena-DeRosa.

Leadership gifts from long-time supporters helped launch the campaign, including TD Charitable Foundation, Lincoln Financial Foundation, Bank of America, Stop & Shop, Billy Grant, SBM Charitable Foundation, UnitedHealthcare and Webster Bank. Highland Park Market will be accepting donations through November 24th, as will the food bank’s Bloomfield distribution center. For a complete list of donation sites, or to make a donation online, please visit www.aturkeyand30.org.

Keep up with all of Foodshare’s latest news and media updates by becoming a follower at www.twitter.com/Foodshare.

About Foodshare

Recognized as one of the most innovative, progressive and efficient food banks in the country, Foodshare has served Hartford and Tolland counties since 1982. Last year, Foodshare provided enough food for 12 million meals to 300 partner programs including food pantries, community kitchens, and homeless shelters, and through its Mobile Foodshare program. The organization also works on reducing the need, with programs that help people get back on their feet and get the resources they need to buy their own food. Working in partnership with other community leaders such as the United Way, End Hunger Connecticut! and 211 Infoline, Foodshare has the experience and is building the networks necessary to help make this vision a reality.