



For Immediate Release
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THE GREATER BOSTON FOOD BANK LAUNCHES \$30 MILLION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

“Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope” campaign to build new distribution center to meet growing number of hungry people

BOSTON- The Board of Directors of The Greater Boston Food Bank today launched the public phase of a capital campaign to raise \$30 million to purchase land and build a 96,000-square-foot distribution center to feed the growing number of hungry people in eastern Massachusetts. The new facility will allow the nonprofit to double its current distribution of nearly 26 million pounds of food per year to more than 600 partner hunger-relief agencies, while also maximizing its capacity to properly store, refrigerate and distribute high quality, nutritious food.

The Yawkey Foundation has already pledged a \$3 million gift to the Campaign; the new distribution center will be named the Yawkey Distribution Center.

“We are now feeding three hundred and twenty thousand people a year—that’s a fourteen percent increase since 2001 and nearly double the number we were feeding in 1997,” said Catherine D’Amato, president and CEO of The Greater Boston Food Bank. “Unfortunately, we do not see this trend reversing. We are very grateful to the Yawkey Foundation and our other generous donors who recognize that it is critical for us to increase our capacity to feed the hungry in our community by updating and expanding our facilities.”

“The tremendous generosity of our early donors has created a solid foundation for the building of a larger and more efficient facility to help the hungry,” said Vicary Graham, chair of the Greater Boston Food Bank board of directors. “This new distribution center will enable us to acquire and distribute millions more pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products and other nutrient-rich, perishable foods.”

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“Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope” has already raised \$17 million toward its goal of \$30 million. During the public phase of the campaign, the Greater Boston Food Bank will be reaching out to its broad constituency of supporters to raise additional funds.

Mayor and Mrs. Thomas M. Menino, Jack and Eileen Connors, Chad and Anne Gifford serve as honorary chairs of The Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope campaign. Ted Cutler, CEO of Interface Group, and Joanne Jaxtimer, senior vice president of Mellon Financial Corporation, serve as campaign chairs.

The Food Bank plans to build the new distribution center on a 2.8-acre lot located at 70 South Bay Avenue, across the street from its current location. The purchase of the state-owned site, conveyed to The Food Bank by legislation passed in 2006, has been approved by the Massachusetts Inspector General and the Commissioner of the Division of Capital Asset Management at the market rate of \$1.3 million.

Designed to receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, the distribution center will accommodate a minimum of 15 years projected growth and will include expanded dry storage, cooler and freezer space, refrigerated docks and “shopping” areas and improved food salvage areas.

For more information about the Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope capital campaign and the new distribution center, visit www.newfoodbank.org.

The Greater Boston Food Bank distributes nearly 26 million pounds of food annually to more than 600 hunger-relief agencies in a dedicated partnership to end hunger in eastern Massachusetts. The Food Bank serves 83,000 people each week. For more information about The Greater Boston Food Bank, visit our Web site at www.gbfb.org or call 617-427-5200.

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