

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Evans Mandes
emandes@hodgespart.com
703-677-2087

Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Announces Results of 2022 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

Individuals across the Food Bank's service area donate more than 100,000 pounds of food in drive hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers

VERONA, Va. (May 31, 2022) – The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank today announced the results of the 2022 Stamp Out Hunger campaign, which is the nation's largest one-day food collection effort, hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers. On Saturday, May 14, neighbors donated and letter carriers across the Food Bank's 25-county service area collected 114,196 pounds of food – enough to provide more than 95,000 meals to those experiencing hunger.

In addition to the more than 114,000 pounds of food donated, the Food Bank welcomed volunteers at local post office locations to sort the items. The total pounds from across the participating locations can be found below:

- Charlottesville: 13,540 pounds
- Lynchburg: 39,225 pounds
- Harrisonburg: 9,743 pounds
- Northern Shenandoah Valley: 23,564 pounds
- Staunton: 7,313 pounds
- Shenandoah Valley: 14,187 pounds
- Waynesboro: 6,723 pounds

“We're thrilled to have Stamp Out Hunger back after a multi-year break and are immensely grateful for the letter carriers who made this event possible as well as the generosity of those who donated food”, said Michael McKee, CEO of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. “Stamp Out Hunger comes at a critical time as families who rely on free or reduced-price school meals for their children look to food-assistance programs during the summer.”

In the summer months, the Food Bank typically sees a decline in community food donations. Stamp Out Hunger helps bolster food supplies ahead of the season, putting the Food Bank and its pantry network in a better position to support individuals and families experiencing hunger.

Over its 30-year history, the food drive has collected 1.82 billion pounds of food to help feed people across the country who experience food insecurity.

Planning for the 2023 campaign already has begun – it will take place on May 13, 2023. The Food Bank extends its gratitude to the National Association of Letter Carriers for continuing this annual tradition.

To learn more about how you can support the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, visit <https://www.brafb.org/>.

About the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank

Founded in 1981 and headquartered in Verona, Virginia, the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is the largest organization alleviating hunger in western and central Virginia. The Food Bank serves an average of nearly 119,000 individuals each month across 25 counties and eight cities through distribution centers in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Winchester, and Verona. Together with our network of 207 community partners and 187 program sites, we're serving record numbers of Virginians during a prolonged pandemic and its associated economic impacts. We pledge to continue innovating and adapting to secure, store, and distribute more food to more individuals, families, children, and seniors experiencing hunger. The Food Bank is a member of Feeding America, a national food bank association that supports 200 food banks across the United States providing 6 billion meals to 42 million people through 60,000 partner pantries. For more information, visit www.brafb.org. To find food assistance, visit www.brafb.org/find-help.

###