



Blue Ridge Area
FOOD BANK
Everyone should have enough to eat.

A member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Les Sinclair
lsinclair@brafb.org
434-962-5403

More Than 115,000 Pounds of Food Collected From 2023 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

Communities across the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank's service area donated enough food to provide over 75,000 meals to families experiencing hunger

VERONA, Va. (May 25, 2023) – As part of this year's Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank collected 115,019 pounds of food – enough to provide approximately 95,849 meals to those experiencing hunger.

The Stamp Out Hunger campaign is the nation's largest one-day food collection effort, hosted by the National Association of Letter Carriers.

This year's event took place on Saturday, May 13, where neighbors across the Food Bank's 25-county service area left donated food items at their mailboxes that were then picked up by letter carriers throughout the day. The Food Bank welcomed volunteers at local Post Offices across the region to help sort food items and drop off donations to the organization's four branches.

The total pounds from participating locations are below:

- Charlottesville: 10,550 pounds
- Lynchburg: 29,279 pounds
- Harrisonburg: 7,598 pounds
- Northern Shenandoah Valley: 20,693 pounds
- Staunton: 8,678 pounds
- Shenandoah Valley: 32,370 pounds
- Waynesboro: 5,851 pounds

"The generosity and coordination behind Stamp Out Hunger are simply astounding – thank you to the letter carriers, volunteers, and all those who donated food for making this year's event such a success," said Michael McKee, CEO of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. "Stamp Out Hunger comes at a critical time for families and children who are at home during the summer months, and we are thankful to have a fresh supply of food donations to help keep our pantries stocked."

In the summer months, the Food Bank typically sees a decline in community food donations and increase in demand, especially with kids home from school. 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.

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 109,500 people per month across 25 counties and eight cities through distribution centers in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Winchester, and Verona. We're serving record numbers of Virginians during a prolonged pandemic and its associated economic impacts through our network of more than 400 community partners, which includes food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, schools, libraries, health care clinics, community centers, and more. 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 supporting more than 200 food banks across the United States, helping provide 5.2 billion meals to tens of millions of people through 60,000 agency partners. For more information, visit www.brafb.org.

About the National Association of Letter Carriers

The 294,000-member National Association of Letter Carriers represents letter carriers across the country employed by the U.S. Postal Service, along with retired letter carriers. Founded by Civil War veterans in 1889, the NALC is among the country's oldest labor unions.

###