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Connecticut Food Bank President & CEO Nancy L. Carrington Announces Retirement at End of 2014

East Haven, CT – Nancy L. Carrington, President & CEO of Connecticut Food Bank, today announced she will retire from the organization at the end of 2014. Carrington joined Connecticut Food Bank in 1984 as a food solicitor, seeking donations from the food industry and local growers. In 1989 she was named Executive Director, and was appointed President & CEO in 2010.

Under Carrington's leadership, Connecticut Food Bank grew from a grassroots, volunteer organization into the largest centralized source of charitable food donations in Connecticut, feeding more than 300,000 people in six Connecticut counties.

"Nancy has been a strong leader in the food banking industry and has lead the organization through many challenges as the need for food-assistance grew beyond what anyone would have imagined," said James Augur, Connecticut Food Bank's Board Chair and Vice President at Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Connecticut. "Under her guidance, Connecticut Food Bank grew from distributing 200,000 pounds of food annually to more than 20 million pounds. On behalf of the Board of Directors we thank her for her dedication to feeding the hungry and appreciate her years of service."

"It has been an honor and a privilege to lead Connecticut Food Bank for the last 30 years," said Carrington. "Retirement was not an easy decision for me to make after spending so many years working to alleviate hunger in Connecticut. Although I plan to remain a life-long advocate for the hungry, it is time for new leadership to manage the changes Connecticut Food Bank will experience in the years to come. But one thing that will not change is the support needed from members of the community, donors and our member feeding agencies and programs."

Connecticut Food Bank's key accomplishments under Carrington's leadership include:

- Increasing the number of member food-assistance programs from 70 to nearly 700
- Opening two additional warehouses, and partnering with two affiliate distribution centers
- Providing more fresh produce than ever before – amounting to 35 percent of total distribution
- Creating the Mobile Pantry and Kids' BackPack Programs as new, creative ways to get food directly to people in need

Carrington said she has been working with Connecticut Food Bank's Board of Directors on a succession plan for some time. The Board of Directors is conducting the search for a successor and is planning to have a new leader in place by January 1, 2015.

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Connecticut Food Bank serves nearly 700 community-based feeding programs in six of Connecticut's eight counties: Fairfield, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London and Windham. Connecticut Food Bank distributes an average of 40 tons of food every business day.