



NEWS

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LIBERTY BANK, ROTARY CLUBS RAISE OVER \$1 MILLION TO HELP FILL THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

MIDDLETOWN, CT – Liberty Bank’s 60 branch offices and 48 local Rotary Clubs have once again joined forces in an effort to ensure that everyone in Liberty’s service area will be able to enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving feast. Now in its 17th year, the Liberty Bank / Rotary Thanksgiving Dinner Drive raised a record-breaking \$1,074,010—enough to ensure there’s enough food on pantry shelves for the holiday and beyond.

Each year since 2004, Liberty Bank and its Rotary partners have raised money in the weeks before Thanksgiving. For every dollar donated, Liberty’s charitable foundation adds 25 cents. Funds are deposited into each Rotary Club’s account at Liberty, and are donated by each club to a nonprofit or municipal agency providing Thanksgiving food to local residents. All funds are donated within the communities where they are raised.

Since the drive began in 2004, it has raised over \$4 million, including the Liberty Bank Foundation match.

“Liberty Bank’s proud and unwavering mission is to improve the lives of our customers, teammates and communities for generations to come,” said David W. Glidden, President & CEO of Liberty Bank. “So when it comes to serving our communities, it takes strong and lasting partnerships with service-minded organizations like our local Rotary Clubs to ensure the pressing needs of area residents are addressed, especially when it comes to food security during this time of the year. A big thank goes out to our local Rotarians for joining us in making this successfully happen for 17 consecutive years.”

“Once again, our Rotary partners have demonstrated their determination not to let any obstacle prevent them meeting the needs in their communities,” said Sue Murphy, executive director of the Liberty Bank Foundation, which coordinates the drive. “In spite of the pandemic

and the economic shutdown, they blew right past our \$800,000 goal. In some towns, the money raised will stock food pantries throughout the winter months.”

The following Rotary Clubs participated in the 2020 Liberty Bank/Rotary Club Thanksgiving Drive: Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Branford, Bristol, Cheshire, Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Deep River, Derby/Shelton, East Hampton, East Hartford, East Haven,* Essex, Groton, Hamden, Kensington/Berlin, Ledyard, Madison, Meriden, Middletown, Montville, Mystic, Naugatuck, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Newington, Niantic, North Branford, North Haven, Norwich, Old Saybrook, Plainville, Seymour/Oxford, Simsbury/Granby, South Central CT, Southington, the Stoningtons, Tribury, Wallingford, Waterbury, Waterford, West Hartford, Wethersfield/Rocky Hill, Willimantic, and Woodbridge.* The East Haddam Community Lions Club also participated.

Rotary is a global network of more than 1.2 million volunteer leaders who dedicate their time and talent to tackle the world’s most pressing humanitarian challenges. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. Their work impacts families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world.

Since its inception in 1997, the Liberty Bank Foundation has awarded over \$14 million in grants to nonprofit organizations within Liberty Bank’s market area. The foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for people of low or moderate income by investing in three areas: education to promote economic success for children and families; affordable housing and ending homelessness; and nonprofit capacity building. Along with its grantmaking, the foundation strives to foster the convening and collaboration of nonprofits, funders, business, and government to address community issues.

Established in 1825, Liberty Bank is Connecticut’s oldest bank, with over \$6 billion in assets and 60 banking offices throughout the central, eastern, and shoreline areas of the state. As a full-service financial institution, Liberty offers consumer and commercial banking, home mortgages, insurance, and investment services. Named as a “Top Workplace” by the Hartford Courant for nine consecutive years, Liberty maintains a longstanding commitment to superior personal service and unparalleled community involvement.

**Asterisks indicate Rotary Clubs new to the drive this year.*

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