

# MEDIA ADVISORY



## **For Immediate Release**

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts  
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## **The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts honors frontline emergency food network through Partner Appreciation Days**

Hatfield, MA – As part of a 40th anniversary commemoration, The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts is honoring members of the frontline emergency food network with a series of four Partner Appreciation Days that will take place in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties. **Representatives of the press are invited to attend and report on these by-invitation-only events.**

The Food Bank partners with more than 170 meal sites and food pantries in the region to distribute healthy food to individuals and families at risk of hunger. The organization also partners with religious and social service organizations for 93 direct distributions each month through the Brown Bag: Food for Elders and Mobile Food Bank programs. Without these partnerships, The Food Bank would not have been able to distribute 187,968,086 pounds of healthy food in its 40-year history.

“We are so privileged to be able work with such an amazing group of organizations to provide food to our neighbors throughout Western Massachusetts,” stated Christina Maxwell, Director of Programs at The Food Bank. “We literally couldn’t do what we do without them, and we are happy to have an opportunity to celebrate with them and say thank you for all of their incredibly hard work. “

Each Partner Appreciation Event will take place in one of four counties of the region so that volunteers and staff representing all organizations within the emergency food network will have an opportunity to attend without the need to travel long distances. Each event will include shared remarks from Food Bank staff, partners, and legislators and will also include a recognition awards ceremony. Refreshments, snack and hors d’oeuvres will also be served.

### **Partner Appreciation Days schedule:**

#### **Franklin County Partner Appreciation Day**

**Date:** Thursday, May 12, 2022

**Time:** 5 – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Four Star Farm, 508 Pine Meadow Farm, Northfield

**Legislators Invited to attend:** Reps. Susannah Whipps and Natalie Blais

**Hampshire County Partner Appreciation Day**

**Date:** Monday, May 23, 2022

**Time:** 5 – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Esselon Café, 99 Russell Street, Hadley

**Legislators Invited to the event:** Reps. Dan Carey, Mindy Domb, Lindsay Sabadosa, and Jake Oliveira

**Berkshire County Partner Appreciation Day**

**Date:** Monday, June 13, 2022

**Time:** 5 – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Berkshire Botanical Gardens, 5 W. Stockbridge Road, Stockbridge

**Hampden County Partner Appreciation Day**

**Date:** Monday, July 11

**Time:** 5 – 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** The Carriage House at Barney Estate, Forest Park Hill, Laurel Hill Rd., Springfield

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*The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts believes that everyone has a right to healthy food regardless of their circumstances. Serving Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties, The Food Bank leads the region's emergency food network, distributing nutritious food to households with lower incomes. Since 1982, they have been providing individuals facing hunger with the food they need to survive and leading communities towards long-term solutions to food insecurity by addressing its underlying causes. They are committed to creating a Western Massachusetts where no one goes hungry, and everyone has access to nutritious food. For more information, visit [foodbankwma.org](http://foodbankwma.org).*



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