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Food Bank of Delaware's Oktoberfest Blue Jean Ball to be held October 5

Newark, Del. (September 23, 2013) –The Food Bank will host its annual signature event on Saturday, October 5 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in its Newark warehouse at 14 Garfield Way in the Delaware Industrial Park. This year's theme is Oktoberfest, and Iron Hill Brewery and Restaurant will work alongside students from The Culinary School at the Food Bank of Delaware to prepare the event's menu.

Guests can leave their black tie gala attire at home for this annual event. Blue Jean Ball attendees are asked to don their favorite blue jeans. Ticket prices have been lowered from \$100 to \$65 this year, and the evening will feature a German small plate menu, Iron Hill's own brews, German wines, entertainment from Club Phred and a silent auction.

Food stations will be set up throughout the food bank's warehouse, and guests can expect to see traditional German fare such as jaeger schnitzel, sauerbraten tenderloin, bratwurst, salmon gravlax, roasted root vegetables, German potato salad and more.

Iron Hill's team of chefs will assist students from The Culinary School with kitchen prep and cooking, organizing food stations and executing plate presentation on the night of the event.

"After last year's Blue Jean Ball we regrouped and decided we needed to put a fresh spin on our annual event," said Food Bank of Delaware President and CEO Patricia Beebe. "We decided to lower ticket prices in hopes of drawing to a larger crowd and we were thrilled when Iron Hill Brewery and Restaurant stepped up as our presenting sponsor. This year's Blue Jean Ball should be our best yet."

The Blue Jean Ball is held each year to raise awareness of the acute problem of hunger in Delaware and the important role the food bank plays in combating hunger, as well as its root cause – poverty.

Live entertainment will be provided by local classic rock and roll band, Club Phred. Guests will also have an opportunity to bid on a wide selection of items during the silent auction.

By utilizing the warehouse space and the culinary skills of students and its staff of chefs, the food bank is able to significantly reduce costs. Last year, close to 90 percent of event proceeds went directly back to the organization's hunger-relief efforts.

Tickets are available for \$65/person and may be purchased by calling (302) 444-8074 or by visiting www.fdbbluejeanball.org.

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The Food Bank of Delaware distributes millions of pounds of food and grocery products each year through its network of 477 hunger-relief program partners throughout the state and also provides thousands of meals a month for children through the After-School Feeding Program, the Summer Food Service Program and the Backpack Program. The Food Bank's hunger-relief programs directly provide for 241,600 Delawareans at risk of going without meals each year. For more information about the Food Bank of Delaware, visit www.fbd.org or call (302) 292-1305.