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Contact: Kim Turner
(302) 444-8074
kturner@fbd.org

Delaware organizations encouraged to build structures out of cans to help alleviate hunger

Newark, Del. (August 23, 2013) – The Food Bank of Delaware announced today that registration for the third annual DelawareCAN competition is now open. Organizations have until September 4 to register for the food drive and structure-building contest.

In an effort to help stock the food bank's shelves prior to the holiday season and ensure that hungry Delawareans have access to healthy foods, the Food Bank of Delaware launched DelawareCAN in 2011. The competition is a creative way to collect much-needed food and create a spirited competition in Delaware's business and education communities.

"As a local business, Capital One is committed to giving back and driving opportunity in the communities where we work and live. We are proud to partner with the Food Bank of Delaware to provide food for hungry families and honored to be a previous winner of the DelawareCAN contest," said John Owens, MVP, Business Analysis, Capital One Bank. "Our associates look forward to this year's event and have set a goal to exceed items collected in the past, so that we can help to feed even more families."

From Monday, September 23 until Friday, October 18, organizations will have the opportunity to hold food drives and compete to create sculptures out of the food items collected. Before collecting, teams should decide on their structure and coordinate the types of food items to be collected. Over the past two years more than 60,000 pounds of food have been collected through the competition.

"Last year's participants really set the bar high," said Food Bank of Delaware President and CEO Patricia Beebe. "The judges were amazed as we traveled across the state to view the structures that were created out of cans and boxes. We were impressed not only by their creativity, but our state's commitment to alleviating hunger for the one in four Delawareans who depend on our network of assistance."

Judging will take place on Monday, October 21 and Tuesday, October 22 and winners will be announced on Monday, October 28. For complete competition guidelines or to register, visit www.fbd.org/delawarecan. Questions regarding the competition may be directed to Food Bank of Delaware Donor Outreach Coordinator Caitlin Custer at (302) 292-1305 ext 253 or ccuster@fbd.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.