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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Britain Workplaces Support Food Pantries at the Holidays

New Britain—Two local workplaces that participate in the United Way Community Campaign have continued their generosity through the holiday season with drives for local food pantries. The Hospital of Central Connecticut and Parker Hannifin Fluid Control recently made significant contributions in support of the New Britain Food Security Collaborative.

Employees from Parker Hannifin delivered more than 30 bags of non-perishable food items to the New Britain Food and Resource Center on Osgood Avenue. The Center, created by the New Britain Food Security Collaborative (NBFSC), offers a food pantry and an array of services aimed at increasing the financial stability of New Britain residents including job search assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) screening, and case management and referrals.

“Parker Fluid Control is proud to give something back to the New Britain community, especially since it has been our home for so many years,” said Laura-Marie LoFrumento, the company’s marketing communications manager. “Organizations like the New Britain Food & Resource Center need support not just at the holidays, but throughout the year.”

Employees of The Hospital of Central Connecticut collected more than 4,000 pounds of non-perishable food items and delivered the donated items to multiple New Britain food pantries including the New Britain Food and Resource Center, Spanish Speaking Center, Salvation Army, Saint Mary’s Church, and Saint Mark’s Episcopal Church.

“This time of year reminds us of the power of our ties to others and the meaning of our community. We LIVE UNITED by caring for others every single day, year round,” said Enrique Juncadella, director of community relations at The Hospital of Central Connecticut. Juncadella, a member of the United Way of New Britain and Berlin regional advisory board, served as local chair of the 2009 United Way Community Campaign, which raises resources to ensure that children are successful, families are healthy and financially stable, and a safety net of services is available to everyone in central and northeastern Connecticut.

United Way of New Britain and Berlin worked to convene local service providers and regional food-related organizations in order create the NBFSC, which addresses community and individual barriers to food security by helping families and individuals become more financially stable and gain greater access to nutritious food.

Our mission is to engage people to improve lives and change community conditions.

United Way of New Britain and Berlin is part of United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut, which has been meeting local human care needs for 85 years in 40 towns across our region. With its network of partner agencies, volunteers and community leaders, United Way takes a leadership role in changing conditions to improve lives in the communities it serves.

To learn more about United Way's work in New Britain and Berlin, contact Liz Buczynski at (860) 223-9294 or lbuczynski@unitedwayinc.org. To learn more about the New Britain Food Security Collaborative, contact Barbara Kirejczyk at (860) 225-6627. More information about the United Way Community Campaign can be found online at www.unitedwayinc.org.

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