

News Release



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Commercial Association of REALTORS® Donates 16,315 Pounds of Food To Oregon Food Bank

Portland, Ore. (May 12, 2009) – The Commercial Association of REALTORS® for Oregon and Southwest Washington (CAR) today announced it has donated 16,315 pounds of food to the Oregon Food Bank as part of its Spring Community Service Challenge. The food was delivered on Friday, May 8, 2009, by CAR Community Service Committee Chair Dietra Stivahtis, a Vice President with Fidelity National Title, and several other volunteers. The delivery of food came after 20 CAR member volunteers spent the morning packing a total of 5,886 pounds of food, the equivalent of 4,428 meals, at the Oregon Food Banks' northeast Portland facility.

CAR recently established a Community Service Committee, whose goal is to provide a venue for CAR members to give back to and get involved with the community. This inaugural event for the Community Service Committee included a three-week-long food drive culminating in a volunteer day for the Oregon Food Bank.

The Community Service Committee announced the food drive and began collecting food in early April by setting up food donation drop boxes in participating CAR member offices. Participating offices included Bluestone & Hockley, Capacity Commercial Group, Colliers International, Commercial Realty Advisors, Cushman & Wakefield, Grubb & Ellis, GVA Kidder Mathews, Macadam Forbes, NAI Norris, Beggs & Simpson, Norris & Stevens and Pacific Real Estate Partners.

“During these very difficult economic times, our membership wants to do its part to help Oregon Food Bank with its mission to eliminate hunger and its root causes,” said Don Ossey, principal at Capacity Commercial Group and 2009 president of CAR, which represents more than 900 commercial real estate members. “While at the Oregon Food Bank, we learned that food box need has risen in Oregon by 15% in the last year and statistics show that 50% of all households receiving food box donations have children and 46% of all recipients has at least one working adult or they are retired or disabled.”

About Oregon Food Bank

Oregon Food Bank is a nonprofit, charitable organization. It is the hub of a statewide network of more than 915 hunger-relief agencies serving Oregon and Clark County, Wash. OFB recovers food from farms, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, individuals and government sources. It then distributes that food to 20 regional food banks across Oregon. Sixteen are independent charitable organizations. OFB directly operates the four regional food banks serving the Portland metropolitan area, southeast Oregon and Tillamook County. Those four centers distribute food weekly to 351 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other programs helping low-income individuals in Multnomah, Clackamas, Clark, Washington, Harney, Malheur and Tillamook counties. OFB also works to eliminate the root causes of hunger through advocacy and public education.

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CAR is a regional trade association dedicated to serving commercial real estate interests throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington. Established in 1993 as an organization to provide commercial real estate professionals with education and networking opportunities, CAR boasts an ever growing membership of more than 900 Commercial REALTOR® members. CAR strives for excellence in the services provided to its members and continues to develop new initiatives to aid in the business of the Commercial REALTOR®. CAR is a member-driven, customer-focused service organization, which exists to enhance our members' ability to serve the public, ethically, professionally and successfully. CAR is affiliated with the National Association of REALTORS®, a national trade association representing more than a million members involved in all aspects of real estate.