



*Nonprofit*

**RHODE ISLAND COMMUNITY  
FOOD BANK, CRANSTON**

Currently celebrating its 30th year, the Rhode Island Community Food Bank (RICFB) provides quality food to Rhode Islanders in need, while promoting long-term solutions to the problem of hunger in the Ocean State. They successfully distribute food through their network of soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters. Last year the RICFB distributed 9.4 million pounds of food, including almost 17 million meals served at 163 emergency food programs.

Their Community Kitchen provides training for people with few employment skills; student chefs learn the basics and cook meals for the Kids Cafe, which serves healthy meals to children and provides nutrition education.

The Neighborhood Pantry Express delivers fresh quality produce to the communities that need it most, giving hungry people access to the most nutritious food possible. The Community Farm program, a network of farms that started growing fresh produce in 2005, last year supplemented the Pantry with 45 tons of locally grown vegetables, reported Executive Director Andrew Schiff (pictured). Through the four farms around the state, the RICFB brings the concept of community-based resources for fighting hunger full circle. [rifoedbank.org](http://rifoedbank.org)

—David Rocheleau

*edible*RHODY  
**LOCAL  
HERO  
WINNER  
2012**

*Congratulations  
to our  
2012 Local Hero  
Award winners!*

Each autumn readers of *Edible Rhody* are invited to honor the people who bring us our food by voting for their local food heroes. We'd like to extend our thanks to you who voted for the chefs who feed us, the artisans who tempt us, the farmers who produce flavorful foods, the food stores that inspire us and the nonprofits that effect change in our food community.