



**For Immediate Release**

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**December 5, 2017**

**The Episcopal Charities Fund of Rhode Island Awards \$2,000 to The Jonnycake Center of Westerly**

**Westerly – December 5, 2017** – The Episcopal Charities Fund of Rhode Island has awarded \$2,000 to The Jonnycake Center of Westerly for its Emergency Food Assistance programs. The Jonnycake Center of Westerly's emergency food assistance programs fight hunger in our community with a four-pronged approach.

1. The Monthly Food Assistance Program provides a week's worth of food to local residents every thirty days in order to supplement other government programs such as SNAP. Over 3000 residents of Westerly, Charlestown, Hopkinton and Richmond, Rhode Island seek this monthly food assistance on a regular basis. In the past year we have distributed over 206,644 equivalent meals—a 5% increase over the previous year.
2. During school vacations, The SPLASH Program (Summer Program Looking to Alleviate Student Hunger) provides additional breakfast and lunch meals to any child in our service area who qualifies for free or reduced school meal programs.
3. Our weekly Farmers' Market, made possible during summer months thanks to our collaboration with the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, the University of Rhode Island's Master Gardener Program, local municipal community gardens, and a host of local farmers who share their produce with us. The result is we can offer free fresh, locally grown produce to all members of the community each Wednesday from July to October.
4. Our Power Pak Program, which feeds schoolchildren on the weekends during the school year.

For more information about our emergency food assistance programs or general information about the services provided by the Jonnycake Center, please contact Bambi Poppick, Development Director at 401-377-8069 x105 or Bpoppick@Jonnycake.org.

**About The Jonnycake Center of Westerly**

The Jonnycake Center of Westerly's mission is to provide a continuum of services in cooperation with other agencies in our service area to assist people through crisis situations & work with each individual to find a path out of dependency toward self-sufficiency. For more information, visit us at [Jonnycake.org](http://Jonnycake.org), become a fan on [Facebook](#), follow us on Twitter (@JonnycakeCenter) and [Instagram](#), or call Bambi Poppick at 401-377-8069 ext 105.

*A Non-Profit Charitable Organization*

