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TURKEYPALOOZA 2013: University of Massachusetts Boston Students Provide Extra Meals This Holiday Season

BOSTON - Student volunteers with the Campus Kitchen at the University of Massachusetts Boston are serving up special meals for their clients as part of The Campus Kitchens Project's **Turkeypalooza 2013**. Across the country, students will collect food items, including turkeys, from professors, staff and fellow students, which will be used to provide prepared meals or groceries to the community partners their Campus Kitchen supports.

On November 19 and 20, the Campus Kitchen at the University of Massachusetts Boston (CKUMB) Turkeypalooza volunteers will prepare Thanksgiving-themed grocery bags, some of which include frozen turkeys, for 230 clients and prepare turkey dinner for about 30 University of Massachusetts Boston students facing food insecurity. To make this happen, CKUMB is aiming to solicit 100 turkey donations. For this year's Turkeypalooza efforts, CKUMB is partnering with the university's student affairs department, Food for Free, the University of Massachusetts Boston Student Arts and Events Council, Archbishop Williams High School and Boston College High School.

CKUMB is one of 33 Campus Kitchens across the country that together will have a great impact in their communities through Turkeypalooza this holiday season. Last year, Campus Kitchens served nearly 5,000 extra meals through Turkeypalooza programming in addition to the 21,000 meals served on average each month.

To help CKUMB meet their food donation goal, food or monetary donations will be accepted through November 18. To donate, or to help prepare meals for this special event, please contact Elizabeth Moniz, coordinator of CKUMB, at emoniz@campuskitchens.org.

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About The Campus Kitchens Project

In the last academic year, the Campus Kitchen at the University of Massachusetts Boston transformed 13,006 pounds of food into 11,894 healthy meals serving 419 area residents who are struggling with food insecurity.

Founded in 2001, The Campus Kitchens Project is a national organization that empowers student volunteers to fight hunger in their community. On 33 university and high school campuses across the country, students transform unused food from dining halls, grocery stores, restaurants, and farmers' markets into meals that are delivered to local agencies serving those in need. By taking the initiative to run a community kitchen, students develop entrepreneurial and leadership skills, along with a commitment to serve their community, that they will carry with them into future careers. Each Campus Kitchen goes beyond meals by using food as a tool to promote poverty solutions, implement garden initiatives, participate in nutrition education, and convene food policy events. To learn more about our work or to bring The Campus Kitchens Project to your school, visit www.campuskitchens.org.