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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONNECTICUT CONVENTION CENTER DONATES  
FOOD TO HARTFORD AREA FAMILIES IN NEED**

**HARTFORD, CT (November 25, 2013)** – Employees at the Connecticut Convention Center were in the spirit of giving during the Center’s annual food drive. Beginning in early November, associates collected canned, non-perishable items to be distributed to the local community in time for Thanksgiving.

“Our associates were generous this year, donating half a dozen shopping bags full of canned goods,” explains Michael Costelli, General Manager of the Connecticut Convention Center.

This year the Center partnered with the Wolf Pack’s Thanksgiving food drive held at the November 15 game. The Center’s contributions were added to food collected by Wolf Pack fans and donated to Freshplace, a fresh food pantry serving Hartford’s Upper Albany and Asylum Hill neighborhoods. The program is a collaborative project among Chrysalis Center, the Junior League of Hartford and Foodshare.

“We take pride in helping our local community whenever we can and the Holidays are especially important,” stated Costelli. “We were excited to work with both the Wolf Pack and Freshplace for this year’s drive.”

**About the Connecticut Convention Center**

The Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford is the state’s premier meeting venue and the largest full-service convention facility between New York and Boston. Overlooking the beautiful Connecticut River, it features 140,000 square feet of exhibition space, a 40,000-square-foot ballroom and 25,000 square feet of meeting space, as well as ample sheltered parking. The facility is served by more than 6,500 local area hotel rooms, including the 22-story Marriott Hartford Downtown, adjacent to the Convention Center. The venue is professionally managed for the State of Connecticut by Waterford Venue Services, an affiliate of Waterford Hotel Group. For more information, please visit [www.ctconventions.com](http://www.ctconventions.com).

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