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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

106.9 The Fox and FM99 to host Hampton Roads' Largest Food and Fund Drive

The 27th Annual Mayflower Marathon
Friday, November 17 – Sunday, November 19

NORFOLK, VA | November 6, 2023 – Classic Rock 106.9 The Fox (WAFX) and FM99 (WNOR) will host the 27th Annual Mayflower Marathon Food and Fund Drive beginning at 5:30 a.m. Friday, November 17, and concluding at 3 p.m. Sunday, November 19.

"Our generous listeners, staff, and clients look forward to many of our events each and every year. However, the annual Mayflower Marathon is always at the TOP of the must attend list," said Carol Commander, WNOR and WAFX General Manager. "In good times and bad, they have opened their cupboards and wallets to help the area food banks. We appreciate the support of the entire community in supporting our Mayflower Marathon's mission to end hunger."

This 'round-the-clock food drive takes place simultaneously at five different locations throughout the region. With 57 hours to participate, giving has never been easier. Supporters simply drive through to donate. For those unable to visit the sites in person, each food bank offers an online donation option, allowing the community to make a powerful impact from wherever they are.

Two Southside locations benefit the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore. "Every year, Mayflower Marathon reminds us that, in the midst of our own family celebrations, we have the power to bring sustenance to our neighbors facing hunger," said Christopher Tan, President and CEO. "We are thankful for our Foodbank family partners, such as FM99 and 106.9 The Fox, who ensure that the warmth of a holiday meal reaches every table in our community, embodying the true spirit of the season."

Lynnhaven Mall (NEW Location!)	701 Lynnhaven Pkwy, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Kroger Marketplace	1017 University Blvd, Suffolk, VA 23435

Two Peninsula locations benefit the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank. "The local food banks are continuing to see double-digit increases in the number of families, seniors, and other individuals coming to our doors. This year, it has been particularly difficult as we have been without the large food donations of the past and have had to purchase more food than ever before just to keep food available for our partner agencies to access and give out for free to our neighbors in need. We rely on the generosity of our friends around the region during the annual Mayflower Marathon Food Drive to help us restock our shelves," states Karen Joyner, CEO of Virginia Peninsula Foodbank.

Kroger at Coliseum Central	1050 W Mercury Blvd, Hampton, VA 23666
Kroger	5007-2 Victory Blvd, Yorktown, VA 23693

And for the first time, a donation location will benefit the Food Bank of the Albemarle. "Food Bank of the Albemarle is excited to participate in the Mayflower Marathon Dood Drive," said Liz Reasoner, Executive Director. "Donations through this drive will help us feed families in northeastern North Carolina over the holidays. The cost of food has increased more than 4% above what it was this time last year and last year it was 10% above previous years. These factors,

along with the costs of fuel and general inflation, are affecting seniors and veterans living on fixed incomes and families that struggle to choose between medicine, household supplies, housing, utilities, and food. Donations from the Mayflower Marathon will feed the neighborhoods and cities in our 15 County region”.

Moyock Welcome Center	106 Caratoke Hwy, Moyock, NC 27958
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Last year's event was nothing short of remarkable, as this event collectively gathered enough food and monetary donations to provide more than 730,000 meals. Every year, this extraordinary effort ensures that more neighbors can share holiday meals with their loved ones, creating memories that resonate with the true spirit of the season.

Rick Rumble and the entire FM99 team along with Mike Arlo and the Fox staff will be broadcasting live from the event. For complete details about the food drive, visit FM99.com or 1069theFox.com.

About the Foodbank

For more than 40 years, the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore has provided more than 380 million meals to those in our community who face hunger. Through our programs, facilities, and large network of community partners, we work to eliminate hunger daily. Our understanding of the need for a long-term solution has led to the creation of a refreshed strategic plan aimed at moving Hampton Roads closer to achieving the mission of eliminating hunger for those we serve—not only for the day, or for the week, but for a lifetime. For up-to-date information, visit foodbankonline.org or follow us on social media.

About 106.9 The FOX (WAFX) and FM99 (WNOR)

[106.9 The Fox](http://106.9TheFox.com) (WAFX) and [FM99](http://FM99.com) (WNOR) are owned by Saga Communications Inc. and serve the entire Hampton Roads region. FM99 was one of the first FM stations in the country and The Fox has been on the air in its current form for more than 30 years. As the area's two premiere rock stations, The Fox (Classic Rock) and FM99 (mainstream rock) sponsor and participate in many community and military-oriented events throughout the year. Both stations boast some on air icons in their staff, such as Mike Arlo (The Fox) and Rick Rumble (FM99).

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About Virginia Peninsula Foodbank

Since 1986, Virginia Peninsula Foodbank has been leading the fight against hunger by providing healthy food access, emergency relief, education, and advocacy to families in the cities of Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson, and Williamsburg, and the counties of James City, Gloucester, Mathews, Surry, and York. Not only does the Foodbank help our neighbors in need during times of hardship, the Foodbank plays a major role in disaster relief response. With the support of over 200-member agencies and programs, the Foodbank has provided over 236 million meals to families experiencing food and nutrition insecurity. The Foodbank is a proud member of Feeding America, the Federation of Virginia Food Banks, and the United Way of the Virginia

Peninsula. Virginia Peninsula Foodbank has earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for 16 consecutive years. Our vision is to inspire hope by leading the effort for a hunger-free and properly nourished community. For more information, visit us online at our www.hrfoodbank.org, Facebook, and on Twitter.

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About Food Bank of the Albemarle

The Mission of the Food Bank is to fight hunger and poverty in our 15 county service area in northeast North Carolina. We are a regional clearinghouse for the collection and distribution of food and grocery items to over 100 non-profit and faith-based organizations for 155 food programs, and to individuals needing assistance. For more information call (252) 335-4035 or visit www.afoodbank.org.

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