

For immediate release:  
**June 29, 2007**

## **Hospital Staff Donate Over 1400 Pounds of Food to Richmond Hill and Vaughan Food Banks**

York Region, ON -- Good health begins with having enough nutritious food to eat. Many people in our community rely on their local food banks to feed themselves and their families as they struggle to make ends meet. For the fourth year in a row, York Central Hospital staff have responded to that need by collecting over 1400 pounds of non-perishable food and sundry items for the Richmond Hill and Vaughan Food banks.

“We are very proud of the members of our healthcare team who have generously responded to the needs of the growing number of people in our community who depend on the support of food banks to feed their families,” says Jo-anne Marr, Hospital Vice President of Programs. “The Annual York Central Hospital Food Drive is in keeping with the compassion and caring our staff extends to our patients on a daily basis. Today we have taken this spirit of caring a step further to assist families in need in our community.”

Spearheaded by the hospital’s Rehabilitation staff, a drive was held within the hospital to encourage staff, physicians and volunteers to donate non-perishable foods and to challenge others to do the same. Bill Doherty of the Richmond Hill Food Banks and Peter Wixson of the Vaughan Food Bank were on hand to receive the donations.

### **Local Businesses Lend Their Support**

Local businesses offered their support to encourage donations and to recognize the generosity of those who donated to this worthy cause by donating prizes for a draw. Five local businesses, namely, The Bay at Hillcrest, Salon Gaboa, Dominion Groceries, Ontario Place, and York Active Rehab lent their support. The lucky staff members who won prizes for their generosity included: Gloria Brodie, Rahima Kobari, Joan Cooper and Linda Smith.

“Our thanks and congratulations to our local sponsors and to all staff, physicians and volunteers who participated in the Food Drive. Thanks to their generosity over 1400 pounds of food were collected for local families to help them put nutritious food on the table over the summer months,” said Food Drive Organizer and Kinesiologist Wendy Lee.

- 30 -

Media Contact: Melina Cormier  
Director, Public Affairs  
York Central Hospital  
(905) 883-1212, ext. 7492  
[mcormier@yorkcentral.on.ca](mailto:mcormier@yorkcentral.on.ca)

Cherryl Bird  
Public Affairs Officer  
York Central Hospital  
(905) 883-1212, ext. 7493  
[cbird@yorkcentral.on.ca](mailto:cbird@yorkcentral.on.ca)