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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PROJECTBREAD.org

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MORE THAN 35,000 EXPECTED TO PLEDGE TO HELP HUNGRY PROJECT BREAD'S WALK FOR HUNGER ON SUNDAY, MAY 5 With 750,000 people in Mass. Hungry; Need Has Never Been Greater

What:

More than 35,000 people are expected on Boston Common on Sunday, May 5 for the 45th annual Walk for Hunger, a 20mile walk through Greater Boston to raise funds and awareness of the issue of hunger in Massachusetts.

The funds raised for The Walk for Hunger allow Project Bread to provide people with sustainable, reliable access to nutritious food—because the opposite of hungry is not simply full, but *healthy*. From community-based meal programs, to early childhood and school nutrition initiatives, to improved access to farm-to-table and local food resources, Project Bread funds more than 430 community food programs throughout Massachusetts.

<u>Who</u>:

Project Bread expects over 35,000 Walkers and 2,000 Volunteers will raise more than \$3 million to help the hungry. Typically, The Walk for Hunger involves thousands of families, school, religious, and work organizations.

Why:

For over forty-five years, the first Sunday in May marks the day that tens of thousands of families, friends, and colleagues come together to walk and raise money to provide help for the 750,000 people in the Commonwealth who struggle to keep food on the table. For those who face hunger, it is the single most important day of the year. Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline, the only comprehensive hunger resource in Massachusetts that connects a hungry person to emergency food, continues to receive 49,000 calls a year.

When:

Sunday, May 5, 2012, 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. RAIN OR SHINE

- REPORTERS, Please Note: *Peak crowd information, interesting Walker stories, and emergency food spokespeople available throughout the day by visiting the Media Tent on the Boston Common or by calling 617-239-2542.*
- PHOTOGRAPHERS, Please Note: Crowd shots on the Boston Common are between 7 A.M. and 9 A.M. Peak Beauty Shot of masses is available between 9:00-9:30 A.M. from <u>the Mass. Ave. Overpass Bridge looking down</u> <u>Commonwealth Ave.</u>
- ALL MEDIA, Please note: You can follow The Walk for Hunger on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/walkforhunger</u>. Road closings available on homepage <u>www.projectbread.org</u> on Friday, May 3rd.

Where:

Starts 7 A.M. to 9 A.M., Boston Common Parade Grounds (corner of Beacon and Charles Streets). Map and street closings available on website. The 20-mile trek that winds its way through Boston, Brookline, Newton, Watertown, and Cambridge.

For more information on Project Bread and The Walk for Hunger, visit <u>www.projectbread.org</u>.