

Gowrie Group Challenge Raises \$119,000 to Benefit The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries

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Gowrie Group, Connecticut's largest and most prestigious independent insurance agency is proud to announce that our 2012 Challenge to benefit The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries (SSKP) raised a record \$119,000!

Given the ever present and increasing need for food services, Gowrie Group is thrilled that this year's challenge raised a record amount of money – surpassing the total amount raised in any of the previous eight Gowrie Challenges to benefit the SSKP.

Since 2004 Gowrie Group has sponsored a matching challenge to benefit The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries. Gowrie matches, dollar for dollar, the first \$25,000 in donations. This year, the next \$27,500 was matched by 5 partner sponsors: Bell Power Systems, LC Doane, Safety Zone, Andre Prost, and Tower Labs. Between Gowrie Group, the partner sponsors, and generous donations from over 300 local companies and friends, the challenge brought in \$119,000.

Patty Dowling, Director of The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries said, "Because of all the generous donations, the partner contributions, and the yearly support from Gowrie Group to make this challenge possible, we can provide an additional 357,000 meals' worth of food to our neighbors, friends and community residents hardest hit by these challenging times. The generosity of individuals and corporations has made, and continues to make, a positive difference in the lives of those we serve."

Carter Gowrie, CEO of Gowrie Group commented, "We are extremely grateful for the generous donations made by our clients, challenge partners, and surrounding community members to this year's challenge. I am proud to be part of a shoreline community that for the past 9 years has supported this challenge and contributed to the SSKP in such a significant way."

Gowrie Group's first challenge in 2004 for the SSKP raised \$47,000. In 2010, the challenge raised north of \$100,000 for the first time. In total, Gowrie Group has raised nearly three-quarters of a million dollars (\$720,000) to benefit The Shoreline Soup Kitchen. This translates to Gowrie Group funding more than 2 million meals. The SSKP can provide 3 meals for each \$1 donated.

Gowrie Group provides insurance, benefits, and financial services to individuals and businesses throughout the US, and specializes in customized business, home, auto, and marine insurance products and services. Gowrie's 125+ dedicated professionals are primarily located in the company's main offices in Westbrook CT, Darien CT, North Kingstown RI, and Newport RI. For more information about Gowrie Group visit www.gowrie.com or 800.262.8911.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries. Since 1989, providing food and fellowship to those in need in the towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, East Lyme, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Madison, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org