



Gowrie Group Serves 5th Annual Barbecue Lunch to Guests of the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries

On August 14th, employees of [Gowrie Group](#), Connecticut's largest and most prestigious independent insurance agency, spent the day preparing and serving its fifth annual barbecue lunch to the guests of the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries (SSKP). The SSKP provides 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, Connecticut. Lindas Dillon, Gowrie Group Benefits Division Account Manager and member of the SSKP Board of Trustees, and Rod Clingman, Marine Insurance Agent, organized the event, carrying Gowrie into its tenth year of involvement with the SSKP.

Gowrie employees contributed both the food and monetary donations necessary to make this meal possible. Lunch included barbecue chicken, steak, corn on the cob, garden salad, potato salad, and coleslaw. For dessert, guests enjoyed chocolate covered ice cream bars with a fresh berry medley and watermelon. Over 30 community members in need attended the lunch, and each had the opportunity to bring home loaves of bread and bags of homemade cookies.

Lindas considered the event a success, commenting, *"At the end of the day, our Gowrie team felt even more nourished than our very appreciative guests. Our interactions and camaraderie with the guests was truly rewarding, and I would strongly encourage other local businesses and groups to consider hosting a yearly lunch or dinner in one of the eleven SSKP communities."*



The Gowrie Team

In addition to its annual barbecue, from November 15th to December 31st of each year, Gowrie sponsors a matching challenge to benefit the SSKP. Gowrie Group matches the first \$25,000 in donations, and partner

sponsors match the next \$25,000. In 2012, the Gowrie Challenge raised a record \$119,000 to benefit the SSKP. Every December, Gowrie Group also hosts a canned food drive to help meet the SSKP's holiday needs.

Over the past ten years, Gowrie Group has raised over \$720,000 to benefit The Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries. The SSKP can provide three meals for each \$1 donated, which translates to Gowrie Group funding more than 2 million meals. The 2013 Gowrie Group Challenge launches on November 15th. To donate, you can mail a check to: The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, attn: Gowrie Group Corporate Challenge 2013, P.O. Box 804, Essex, Connecticut 06246.

Media Question: Whitney Peterson, VP Marketing, whitneyp@gowrie.com, 860.399.2812.

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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.



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