



OCEAN BANK SPONSORS CAMILLUS HOUSE THANKSGIVING FEAST TO THE HOMELESS

Miami, Florida – Camillus House staff and volunteers celebrated Thanksgiving Day by serving a traditional holiday dinner to hundreds of homeless and poor persons on November 27 at Camillus House, 726 NE 1st Avenue, along NE 8th Street. The meal of turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce and pies was served outside the facility, under a white tent along NE 8th Street.

Ocean Bank, a long-time supporter of Camillus House and the mission of the Brothers of the Good Shepherd, sponsored the Thanksgiving celebration for the 11th consecutive year. This support made possible for Camillus House to provide thousands of traditional Thanksgiving meals to individuals who are poor and homeless in the community.

The preparations began a few days before the event, with Camillus House's chefs bringing nearly 150 turkeys to the Hyatt Regency at Miami Convention Center for roasting, since the Camillus facilities are too small to accommodate the large number of turkeys needed. More than 160 volunteers helped prepare and serve this traditional Thanksgiving feast. Shifts started days in advance with volunteers preparing food and decorations. On Thursday morning, volunteers helped set the tablecloths and centerpieces before the meal was served at 10:30 a.m. Additional volunteers helped sort the many cans of food donated throughout the holiday week.

Through the year, Camillus House serves more than 1,500 meals a day. It provided more than 600,000 free hot meals to underprivileged people in 2007.

Camillus House has provided humanitarian services to persons who are poor and homeless in Miami-Dade County for 48 years. Established by the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd in 1960, Camillus House has grown steadily over the years from a small overnight shelter into a full-service center for persons who are poor and homeless.

Ocean Bank is the largest independent state chartered commercial bank headquartered in Florida, with \$4.8 billion in assets. It operates a network of 21 branches throughout Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Chartered in 1982, the community bank is recognized as a leader in fueling South Florida's economic growth by providing its customers with quality financial products like commercial real estate lending, corporate lending and small business lending all of which have attributed to growth and new employment opportunities in our community. The Bank has received numerous recognitions for its support of local charitable organizations and for its commitment to helping those who are most in need. For more information, visit www.oceanbank.com.

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