



June 9, 2016

Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (ME-01)
2162 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6116

Dear Congresswoman Pingree:

Thank you for taking the time to speak with Shaw's and also having Willy Ritch from your office reach out to my team regarding hunger relief initiatives.

At Shaw's & Star Market we are proud of our long history of helping to fight hunger in New England. In 2015, we contributed over \$1 million worth of product, gift cards and monetary donations to local food banks and pantries from our stores and our customers. This support included the following programs and more:

- Spirit of Giving
- Turkey Bucks
- Hunger Is
- Food Drives
- Food Collection Cans in all store locations

It is our goal to minimize waste and sell through all of the non-perishable and perishable product in our stores and distribution centers. We have a system in place to monitor the shelf life and salability of the perishable and non-perishable products available for sale in our stores, and it also determines if a product goes on a reduced sale rack, is sent to a reclaim facility, or discarded. Some of the products that go through the reclaim facility end up being donated to food banks. In addition, similar to other retailers, produce and other organic material that is non-sellable, usable, or unfit for human consumption is recycled through local farmers.

As our stores continue to grow and thrive, we look for opportunities to better service our neighborhoods, valued customers and also our community partners. We have evaluated many past and current programs for continued execution, program redesign, or future rollout of a new model. Based on this evaluation, all Shaw's & Star Market stores in Massachusetts and Maine will roll out an updated Fresh Rescue program. After a successful rollout in Massachusetts and Maine, Shaw's stores in Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Vermont will also launch the program.

Our goal is that all of the non-profit organizations Shaw's and Star Markets selects to be a part of the Fresh Rescue program are currently, or will be in the future, members of the Feeding America foodbank network.

While all of our hunger relief efforts are very important to Shaw's, so is our dedication to being one of the longest operating food retailers in the country, a strong local business and also a large employer across most of the New England states.

Again, thank you for your time and also your shared commitment to ending hunger in our local communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Gossett
President
Shaw's & Star Market