



*Employees at Rochelle Foods and representatives from the Rochelle Area Community Foundation gathered Thursday to celebrate the Hunger Food Challenge. Employees were recently given the opportunity to contribute to the fund through payroll deduction. These gifts, together with generous annual contributions from Hormel Foods Corporation and individuals in the community, have brought the value of this fund to more than \$70,000 in just three years. (Photo by Katie Peterson)*

# Rochelle Foods leads way in helping community foundation fight hunger

**ROCHELLE**— Rochelle Foods, the local manufacturing facility owned by Hormel Foods Corporation, has successfully launched an employee partnership program to fight hunger in Rochelle and surrounding communities.

In 2011, the company established The Rochelle Foods Hunger Challenge Fund with the Rochelle Area Community Foundation, a public charitable organization designed to attract and distribute gifts for the benefit of the community.

Employees of Rochelle Foods were recently given the opportunity to contribute to the fund through payroll deduction. These gifts, together with generous annual contributions from Hormel Foods Corporation and individuals in the

community, have brought the value of this fund to more than \$70,000 in just three years. The value of the fund continues to grow forever, as a portion of the investment's earnings are used to provide annual grants.

"Providing hunger relief and nutritious food is a top priority in our communities," said Kim Montgomery, executive director of the foundation. "Rochelle Foods and their employees have made a significant impact in combating hunger through this major investment in the community."

The Rochelle Area Community Foundation annually distributes grants from this fund to non-profit organizations who work to provide

hunger relief in the Rochelle area.

In addition to contributing financially to the Rochelle Foods Hunger Challenge Fund, many employees of Rochelle Foods volunteer their time to local programs such as Free Summer Lunch for Kids, and are always on the lookout for ways to give back through volunteering. "Rochelle Foods employees are some of the most generous people I've known", said Cal Jacobs, former plant manager and current vice president of the Rochelle Area Community Foundation.

To learn more about the Rochelle Area Community Foundation contact Kim Montgomery at 815-561-3600 or [kim@rochellefoundation.org](mailto:kim@rochellefoundation.org).