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For more information, contact:

Jessica R. Gagnon, Marketing Specialist
Robinson & Cole LLP | (860) 541-2649, jgagnon@rc.com

Robinson & Cole Employees Give Back through Summer of Service
Volunteers helped 10 organizations in the Northeast throughout July and August

HARTFORD, CT (September 19, 2013) – In July and August, Robinson & Cole lawyers and staff stepped away from the office to volunteer with 10 different nonprofit organizations based in Boston, Hartford, New York, Providence, and Stamford. In total, they spent more than 325 hours volunteering at 22 events lending a hand with activities ranging from gardening, cleaning, and serving food to reading with elementary school students.

Since its founding in 1845, Robinson & Cole has actively given back to the community, and this summer the firm harnessed the volunteer spirit of its lawyers and staff to positively affect the communities in which the firm operates through a program called “Summer of Service.”

“Our Summer of Service program was a new and different way for the attorneys and staff of Robinson & Cole to come together and support each other while helping organizations in our communities that do so much to provide essential resources for people in need,” said [John H. Kane](#), chair of the firm’s Diversity Committee.

The firm’s Diversity Committee and Women’s Committee co-sponsored the program, which involved identifying organizations in each community that had volunteer needs during business hours and coordinating the participation of all the volunteers.

“Our Summer of Service program is a great opportunity to build our internal community while furthering our partnerships in the communities in which we work and live,” said [Nuala E. Droney](#), chair of the firm’s Women’s Committee.

In **Hartford**, volunteers helped the Elizabeth Park Conservancy spruce up its rose gardens by weeding heavily overgrown beds; through Hands On Hartford, a group assisted Peter’s Retreat by cleaning and gardening while another team served lunch at MANNA Community Meals; and over the course of six weeks, two teams took turns reading and assisting with lessons for students from kindergarten through fourth grade enrolled in the United Way/YMCA Bell Summer School Program.

“Elizabeth Park is home to the nation’s oldest public rose garden, which numbers 15,000 rose plants and is on the National Register of Historic Places. It’s a challenge to maintain a park of this size, and we rely on the goodwill of volunteers, like those from Robinson & Cole, to help us in our mission,” said Andrea Masisak, Elizabeth Park Conservancy gardens and grounds coordinator.

The Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County, the Open Door Shelter, and SoundWaters all benefited from the volunteer efforts of lawyers and staff from the firm’s **Stamford** office. Teams headed to each organization on two separate occasions. At the food bank, volunteers helped sort food, stock shelves, and check expiration dates; at the Open Door, volunteers helped prepare and serve lunch; and through SoundWaters, volunteers helped clean up the beach at Cove Island Park.

280 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Volunteers from the **New York** office put on their walking shoes and hit the sidewalk to deliver meals to the elderly through Citymeals-on-Wheels on August 27 and 28, in advance of the Labor Day weekend. Citymeals-on-Wheels is one of the largest meal delivery services for the homebound elderly in the U.S., providing nearly 2 million meals to over 17,000 individuals each year.

The Greater Boston Food Bank put volunteers from the firm's **Boston** office to work in their vast warehouse, where volunteers sorted food, stocked shelves, and checked expiration dates. The food bank is the largest hunger relief organization in New England, distributing almost 41 million pounds of food in 2012, enough to provide healthy meals to 545,000 people.

Volunteers in **Providence** helped the Rhode Island Community Food Bank with their warehouse operations by stocking shelves, sorting food, and checking expiration dates. This food bank distributes millions of pounds of donated food and nonfood household products to the community through its member network of more than 250 agency food programs across Rhode Island.

Robinson & Cole's Commitment to the Community

The tradition of staying connected and giving back to the community that started with the firm's founding partners has remained a part of Robinson & Cole's culture through the years. The firm continues to actively support and participate in initiatives that enrich our communities. Ever since the firm's founding, our charitable outreach has been as diversified as the interests and passions of our attorneys and staff. Many of our lawyers serve on boards of directors or in leadership positions of nonprofit organizations. Additionally, the firm's staff supports multiple nonprofit agencies, charities, and entities throughout the year through the program R&C Cares. Activities organized across the firm's offices have ranged from teams walking to raise funds for breast cancer research to organizing supply drives for veterans and school children.

More about Robinson & Cole LLP

Robinson & Cole is an Am Law 200 firm with more than 200 lawyers in nine offices serving regional, national, and international clients, from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. Since 1845, Robinson & Cole has expanded to meet the changing needs of clients. The firm represents corporate, governmental, and nonprofit entities, as well as individual clients, in a wide range of matters, including corporate; business and insurance litigation; tax and tax-exempt; finance; public finance; land use, environmental and utilities, and real estate; health law; labor, employment, and benefits; intellectual property and technology; and government relations. For more information, please visit www.rc.com.

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