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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Three Cambridge Whole Foods Markets Donate \$11,674.70 to
Cambridge Housing Assistance Fund*

CHAF prevents homelessness in the Cambridge community

CAMBRIDGE, MA, February 23, 2007 –Cambridge Housing Assistance Fund (CHAF) volunteers were thrilled to receive a big check for \$11,674.70 from Whole Foods Market, a great way to kick off the year’s fundraising efforts. This donation was the result of a unique partnership. The three Cambridge Whole Foods Market stores had pledged to donate 5% of total sales made on January 9th, to this local non-profit committed to breaking the cycle of homelessness in Cambridge.

“We are always looking for new partnerships and were very pleased to work with Whole Foods on this fundraiser”, said CHAF Assistant Director Lois Brunet. “We looked upon it not only as a new donation, but also as an opportunity to reach out to people in the community who may not be aware of what we do.” CHAF volunteers were present in the stores all day to talk about CHAF and thank the shoppers for doing their part to fight homelessness in Cambridge.

CHAF provides a bridge to housing for homeless and near homeless families in the community. This donation will allow CHAF to prevent eleven families from falling into homelessness.

About Whole Foods Market:

Whole Foods Market is the world’s leading natural and organic foods supermarket and, since its founding in Texas in 1980, it has been committed to supporting the communities where it does business.

About CHAF:

CHAF was founded in 1999 and produces an annual benefit concert for the homeless. The funds raised are used to assist the homeless and near homeless with initial apartment rental costs such as first month’s rent, last month’s rent or security deposit. CHAF also provides one time assistance grants to people on the verge of eviction so that they may remain in their homes.

“We’re working not only to help people move out of shelters and into homes, but also to prevent the initial fall into homelessness. Prevention is key, and so much more cost effective for society as a whole,” said CHAF Director David Pap. The average amount needed to keep one family from becoming homeless is \$670; once homeless, approximately \$37,000 is expended for them to remain in the state shelter system. For more information, please visit www.CHAFund.org.



From left to right: CHAF Assistant Director, Lois Brunet, CHAF Volunteers Susan Lapierre (East Cambridge Savings Bank), Barbara Ford, Jean LeVaux, CHAF Director, David Pap, (all of Coldwell Banker), CHAF Volunteers Sal Sagarese (Cambridge Trust) and Susan Wayne (Coldwell Banker), Whole Foods representatives Lynay Smith, Serena Hsu, and Molly Paxson

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