

# The Connecticut General Assembly



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## **Majority Leader Aresimowicz and Rep. Zoni Announce Funding for Southington's Bread for Life**

House Majority Leader Joe Aresimowicz (D - Southington/Berlin) and State Representative David Zoni (D - Southington) are pleased to announce that the State Bond Commission has approved a \$725,000 grant-in-aid to Bread For Life, Inc. to assist with construction of a new 3,200 square foot building on Vermont Street to consolidate its operations for feeding the hungry under one roof. The items were approved by the Commission on Tuesday, March 17 at the State Capitol.

"I'm thrilled that Bread for Life received this funding," said Aresimowicz. "This great organization is an asset to the Southington community and these necessary funds will allow the dedicated group of volunteers that make up Bread for Life to continue their work to ensure that Southington gets the services it needs the most. I am very proud to have supported this organization in receiving this funding."

The funds were requested to consolidate all of Bread for Life's functions – operational, storage, administrative – under one roof which will eliminate the need for two rental arrangements, donated space used for storage of dry goods, and outdoor freezers currently used for storage of frozen foods. This consolidation will give Bread for Life the ability to expand their services as needed.

"The \$725,000 grant-in-aid for Bread for Life is great news for this great Southington organization that provides food and critical services to the people who live and work in our town," Rep. David Zoni said. "The funding will go a long way towards assisting with construction of a new building so that they can feed more people under one roof. Bread for Life has earned our respect and support as they continue to deal with the future needs of our community."

The planned 3,200 square foot facility would provide space to prepare, serve and distribute meals daily, ensure much needed storage space for dried goods and frozen foods, and enable necessary administrative needs. Daily delivery of meals to those qualified in all senior housing units and to shut-ins in Southington would also emanate from this building.

"We are so thankful to Governor Malloy and the state for this funding," said Bread for Life Executive Director Eldon Hafford. "We also deeply appreciate the support and guidance from Majority Leader

Aresimowicz and Rep. Zoni, who share an impressive commitment to the less fortunate in Southington. It will be wonderful to have all of our operations together in one location to serve the hungry."

"Bread for Life's focus on ensuring that no one in Southington goes hungry has never been stronger," said Bread for Life Board Chairman Mike Soltys. "This grant will allow us to continue to fulfill that mission for decades to come. It is a proud day for Southington."

Bread for Life is a non-profit organization established in 1984 to feed the hungry. The organization provides 35,000 meals annually to qualified individuals and families who are either homebound or in senior housing, and to those who walk in to the dining space. They also provide breakfasts for children in need in all of Southington's public schools.

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**Joe Aresimowicz is serving his sixth term representing the 30th Assembly District of Berlin and Southington in the Connecticut General Assembly, where he is House Majority Leader.**