Mercury employees raise more than $14,000 in food and monetary donations

FOND DU LAC, Wis. (June 14, 2012) – Employees at Mercury Marine’s Fond du Lac, Wis., facilities raised more than $14,000 in food and monetary donations for the Fondy Food Pantry during the marine engine manufacturer’s weeklong “Fill the Boat” food drive, June 4-7.

This was the second year Mercury employees participated in a food drive to benefit the food pantry. Last year, the company raised more than $10,000 for the non-profit organization.

Employees donated an estimated 8,700 food items – enough to fill three boats – and $3,127 in monetary gifts during the 2012 food drive.

An additional $2,232 was donated to the food pantry from the proceeds of a June 7 campus-wide cookout.

The 8,700 food items are enough to feed 175 families of four for the summer, while the cash donation will feed 375 children each weekend for an entire school year through the food pantry’s “Food for Thought” program, according to Sarah Zimmerman, Fondy Food Pantry president.

“Fondy Food Pantry is once again grateful to Mercury Marine for the outstanding donations of food and cash that were generated from their food drive,” said Linda Bastian, vice president of
the Fondy Food pantry. “Words cannot say how much we appreciate the time and effort that goes into a drive such as this. This sort of community support makes it possible for us to continue our mission to feed the hungry in the Fond du Lac area.”

More than 125 Mercury employees volunteered for the event.

The Fondy Food Pantry, in operation since 1973, serves more than 2,000 adults and 1,500 children annually in the Fond du Lac area.

Leftover brats and burgers from the cookout were donated to the non-profit Broken Bread organization to be used today during its weekly Friday Free Meal.