**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Today, Congressman Rob Wittman announced a Special Project Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Economic Development Initiative (EDI) to the Food Bank of the Virginia Peninsula in Newport News. The $147,000.00 one time grant will provide for the renovation and buildout of a facility to provide food to low-income citizens.

"Now more than ever our friends and neighbors are relying on the great work of organizations like the Food Bank of the Virginia Peninsula, to provide food for their families. I will continue to work to secure funding for these vital community safety nets", stated Wittman.

HUD's EDI program provides grants to local governments guaranteed through the Section 108 Loan Program. This loan program is a source of financing dedicated towards economic development, housing and public facilities rehabilitation, construction or installation to benefit low- to moderate-income individuals.

*Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was elected to his first full term in November 2008 and serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.*