



A member of FEEDING AMERICA

FOOD for thought



Feeding Families, Improving Lives

Winter 2015

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CHILDHOOD HUNGER DAY

20 years of Putting our Children First

This year, 125 children from 6 elementary school classes, representing school districts in both Monmouth & Ocean counties, participated in the Childhood Hunger Day Forum at the FoodBank on October 16th. The event was organized by the American Culinary Federation Jersey Shore Chefs Association.

For the past 20 years, the chefs of the Jersey Shore have held an educational forum for local kids to learn more about nutrition, childhood hunger and obesity. The event included neighborhood schools, with national support from the American Culinary Federation (ACF) Chef & Child Foundation, a philanthropic group whose mission is to help fight childhood hunger.



Chef Tom



Elementary school children enjoyed interactive games, smoothies, lively discussions about healthy food options and gardening activities. "The kids arrive ready to have fun, and always leave with smiles on their faces wanting to come back. We keep it entertaining, but focus on key nutritional messages and feel they really gain something from it. We even send them home with fresh herbs from the garden," said FoodBank Nutritionist Wendi Silver.

Pictured left are Bradley Beach Elementary School Students, along with the Jersey Shore Chefs Association participants, the FoodBank Culinary Training Students and the Master of Ceremonies Chef Tom.

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT—Visitation Relief Center

The Visitation Relief Center is a nonprofit community outreach program that was formed by members of the community in the wake of Super-Storm Sandy, and one of the FoodBank's 300 feeding programs. The Visitation Relief Center is a centralized location for individuals seeking assistance and/or looking for opportunities to serve the community. "Basically, we help each other help others – we are all in this together," says Executive Director Christie Hunter.

Visitation has established partnerships with various businesses, nonprofit and faith-based organizations, advocacy programs, and corporations. Some of its programs for Monmouth and Ocean County residents include a food and pet pantry that serves more than 750 people, sustainability projects like restoring damage to local eco-sensitive spaces, senior employment opportunities,

clothing and household goods, and tool lending, as well as free and discounted materials for rebuilding homes.

"Without the help of Catholic Charities, volunteers, local business partners and the FoodBank, we would not be able to provide the range of services that are so badly needed in this area," said Hunter.

Visitation is located on 725 Mantoloking Road in Brick and is open Monday-Friday from 9:00-6:00PM (Thursdays till 8:00PM). For more information: visit their website at www.visitationreliefcenter.com.



Message from the Executive Director

The State of the FoodBank



“ We are working every day to find ways to help those we serve.”

As we wind down our year and look forward to 2016, I am pleased to say that *The State of the FoodBank is Strong*—and it is because of our donors, volunteers and partners—so we want to say **thank you**. We are very grateful for your support.

We are working every day to find ways to help those we serve. We focus on three things—responsiveness, growth, and innovation—to get people off the food lines and provide the tools and resources that will get them past temporary setbacks and back on stable ground.

We are responsive. We provide disaster relief and support for increasing capacity of our partner feeding programs; we reach more areas with our mobile pantry; and we provide nutritious food to our communities. We remain a Four Star Charity from Charity Navigator and we are fiscally responsible and good stewards of the resources you entrust to us.

We are growing. We continue to build our network and add strategic partners; we returned more than \$11 million in economic income to our clients, and provided 11 million meals including 2 million pounds of produce to our 300 feeding programs. We are local. We are neighbors helping neighbors—1 in 10 people in Monmouth and Ocean require help, including nearly 40,000 children.

We are innovative. In 2016, we will launch The B.E.A.T Center, a new Ocean County hub that will provide help, hope and resources through a unique partnership with Jon Bon Jovi Soul Kitchen and Peoples Pantry. This will be a place where access to healthcare, tax preparation assistance, culinary training and food distribution will be closer to the 1 in 8 people in Ocean County who need it.

We are thankful for YOU... for giving your heart, time, food and monetary donations to the FoodBank and touching the lives of our neighbors in need. We hope that you enjoy the holidays and wish you a new year filled with hope and happiness.

Sincerely,

Carlos M. Rodriguez

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Culinary Training Class Gets Lesson on How to Save A Life

The 44th Culinary Training Class participated in a CPR Certification day, which is part of the 12-week program, where adults in need of permanent employment get the skills they need for better paid jobs. “CPR is an important life skill and resume builder for anyone, but it’s particularly important in the culinary world,” said Executive Chef Ray Cattley. The students also leave the program with ServSafe Food Protection Certification, which is mandatory for cooks.

The Culinary class is held three times a year, and is free of charge for qualified applicants. For more information or to apply, go to: www.Foodbankmoc.org.



It Takes a Community

Thank you to all who are involved!

Walk-a-Thon Fundraiser on Make a Difference Day

Scrap Hunger, Inc. is a nonprofit started by Dominic Esposito when he was thirteen years old. He saw opportunity in recycling scrap metal for charity, and has been successfully raising money for the FoodBank ever since. In October, on "Make a Difference Day," he held the first annual Walk-A-Thon at his school, Christian Brothers Academy (CBA), and raised \$2,455. **That's enough to supply more than 7,300 meals for neighbors in need.**



One Paper = One Meal

The Asbury Park Press presented a generous donation of \$6,510, from its One Meal Campaign. For every Sunday paper purchased at ShopRite, they donated one meal to the FoodBank. **We're happy to say that provided more than 19,000 meals.** We're very thankful to our partners for contributing to those who are hungry in our community.



NY Jets Great Joe Klecko Supports the FoodBank

Jets fans gathered at the Belmar Fishing Club to meet famous defensive lineman, Joe Klecko, for autographs and photos and also did some holiday shopping for sports memorabilia gifts. FoodBank friend Peter Grandich organized the event and donated proceeds from the silent auction of Jets and Giants Memorabilia to the FoodBank. **What a great way to give back!**



A Green THUMBS UP

THUMBS UP to our green-thumbed volunteers, who put the finishing touches on the FoodBank Organic Garden before it closed for the winter. The garden produced a TON (2000 pounds) of fresh herbs and produce this year! **We thank this group for their hard work and dedication** - see you again in the next growing season!

Temple Rodeph Torah Donates More Than 10,000 meals During Annual Yom Kippur Kippur Food Drive

Every year, Temple Rodeph Torah conducts a food drive at Marlboro High School during Yom Kippur, and this year they collected 12,280 pounds of food, which is equivalent to **more than 10,000 meals for neighbors in need.**

"Temple Rodeph Torah's annual Yom Kippur food drive at Marlboro High School is one of our largest single day food drives of the year, and on behalf of all of the people who will receive meals from this donation, we are enormously thankful," said Linda Keenan, Director of Development, The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Ocean County Trades Food For Fines



Ocean County Freeholders Joseph H. Vicari and Deputy Director Gerry P. Little presented the Ocean County Library a proclamation for the 2015 "Foods For Fines" program. Customers donated food in exchange for their outstanding library fines, collecting 5.4 tons of food for The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties! **A special**

thanks to the community and the Ocean County Health Department for supporting this program.



The FoodBank serves one in 10 residents throughout Monmouth and Ocean Counties and 40,000 children on a yearly basis. Food Drives are critical to our ability to provide food to the community, helping us support 300 feeding programs.

Giving Back

It feels good to give something back to the community.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Meet Patty Napolitano, affectionately known to the FoodBank staff as Patty “Nap”—a committed and regular volunteer, who has been with the FoodBank for three years. Patty has helped us in so many areas, including front desk, special events, mobile pantry, clerical and just about any other task for which she is needed.

“I had just retired as a teacher of 35 years and I knew I wanted to volunteer. I heard wonderful things about the FoodBank, so that’s where I went. I know I’m giving back but it also makes me feel good. When you teach in a district for so long you feel like you belong somewhere and now I feel like I belong here, which is a wonderful thing,” says Patty.

“Patty is our go-to volunteer when we really need someone who knows the ropes. She always represents us with a huge smile; she is generous and caring; and we love having her here as part of our FoodBank family,” said Judy Daniels, Community Engagement Coordinator.

We are so grateful to Patty Nap, and the many volunteers, who have so graciously lent their time and expertise in helping to alleviate hunger in our community. **For more information about volunteering, go to www.foodbankmoc.org.**



“I know I’m giving back but it also makes me feel good.”

Planned Giving Testimonial



Continue the Hope by Leaving a Legacy

As the year comes to a close, consider Planned Giving as an effective and mutually beneficial way of giving to the FoodBank. By including the FoodBank in your planned giving, which can include gifting stocks, IRAs and Pensions, you support our mission to alleviate hunger while enjoying the benefits of capital gains tax savings, increased income, and income tax savings. Most importantly, a planned gift maximizes your giving potential while ensuring your future financial security and that of your loved ones.

FoodBank because it helps those in need and supports the local community and I chose the IRA as the best asset to use from a tax standpoint for my heirs. For example, if my heirs were to inherit the \$100,000 IRA, they would receive less than \$40,000 because of estate and income taxes. The other advantage is it allows the FoodBank to keep up with inflation and rising costs. The IRA grows at 7.2% per year; the value in ten years would be \$200,000.”

“I chose the FoodBank because it helps those in need and supports the local community.”

-Brendan O'Connor

Brendan O'Connor, CFP, generously included the FoodBank in his estate plan. He says, “I chose the

To learn more, contact Diana Flippo, Development Manager, at 732-918-2600 ext. 224 or dflippo@foodbankmoc.org.

HUNGER IS WITH US 365 DAYS A YEAR

For 132,000 people in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, hunger is a year-round problem.

With a gift of \$1,000 or more annually to The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, you join a special group of dedicated families and individuals—**Silo of Hope Society**—those who are deeply committed to providing for the most basic of human needs, food.

Silo of Hope members make up 84% of our individual donations, critical to keeping us strong. Your leadership support assists the FoodBank’s mission to alleviate hunger and build food secure communities in Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

Silo of Hope has six levels of annual giving, starting at \$1,000

\$1,000+ Seed of Hope

\$2,500+ Gardener of Hope

\$5,000+ Gatherer of Hope

\$10,000+ Cultivator of Hope

\$25,000+ Nourisher of Hope

\$50,000+ Leader of Hope

