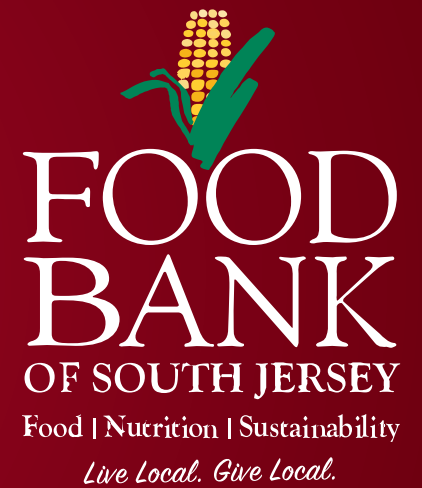




# A Taste of Compassion



A publication of the Food Bank of South Jersey

## COMBATING HUNGER TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE

At the Food Bank of South Jersey, we're incredibly proud of our mission to provide food to food-insecure South Jersey residents. Every human being, both young and old, deserves to have access to one of the most fundamental of human needs, food. Food is crucial to our sustenance, and to our cognitive and physical development. South Jersey is home to approximately 200,000 residents who are food insecure – these individuals have limited or uncertain access to adequate food. 57,000 of these vulnerable citizens are children who need healthy food to thrive physically, mentally, socially and academically. Essential to powering our lives, good and healthy food should never feel like a choice, and for the 20,000-plus senior citizens facing hunger, it is.

With more than 150 partner agencies – shelters, pantries and soup kitchens – the Food Bank of South Jersey (FBSJ) delivers more than 12 million pounds of food annually through a variety of direct-service programs and nutrition education classes across four counties: Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Salem.

## GET ENGAGED: HOW YOU CAN HELP!

### Donate:

\$1 provides approximately five meals. You can donate just once or become a faithful and treasured monthly donor.

### Partner:

Companies can collaborate with us in a meaningful way to help this community. Request the 2019 Corporate Social Responsibility brochure to learn of the various options, such as event sponsorship, volunteering and team building. Send an email to [partner@foodbanksj.org](mailto:partner@foodbanksj.org).

### Attend an event:

Get tickets to this entertaining, fierce and LIVE cook-off event that challenges some of the region's top companies to prepare mouthwatering meals. Be a spectator and cheer on your favorite team or join in on the fun and create a team to participate! The Food Bank Hunger Games will be taking place in April. Visit [foodbanksj.org/hungergames](http://foodbanksj.org/hungergames) for more information.



Your donation will ensure that these vital hunger relief programs continue to be available to those who need them the most. Through our work, we aim to leave no stone unturned, no child unfed and no senior left questioning the source of her next meal.

Contact us: To speak with someone about becoming a treasured financial donor, please call our fundraising team at 856.662.4884 or email [partner@foodbanksj.org](mailto:partner@foodbanksj.org).



### OUR MISSION:

The Food Bank of South Jersey provides food to people in need, delivers health and wellness programs, and designs sustainable solutions to help people improve their lives.

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WINTER 2019

## RETAIL RESCUE:

# REDUCING FOOD WASTE AND FEEDING MORE PEOPLE

The fact is: Food should not be wasted when hungry people are in our midst.

With this premise in mind, the Food Bank created the Retail Rescue program. This food distribution program connects agencies with local retailers, such as restaurants and supermarkets, who have a surplus of food that can now be donated to the agencies instead of being thrown out.

The successful program has matched 30 member agencies with 75 retailers and has rescued more than 1.5 million pounds of food from becoming waste. The program has a profound impact on both the retailer and agency.

### The Retailer Perspective:

#### Zallie's ShopRite Supermarkets of South Jersey

Committed to being active members of their local communities, Zallie's ShopRite has been involved in the Retail Rescue program from the beginning. At least once a week, an agency picks up food from six of Zallie's locations.

"This program gave us an efficient way to share our resources, significantly cut down on our food waste and give back to our local community," said Giuliana Zallie, marketing director. "We are able to box up produce, canned goods, bread and product that didn't sell and donate it to people who truly need it."

### The Agency Perspective:

#### The Community Care Food & Clothing Pantry

When the Community Care Food & Clothing Pantry first heard about the Retail Rescue program, they were apprehensive to join. They were worried about the amount of work and volunteers it would take to do the frequent pickups, but their increasing clientele prompted them to try out the program in order to meet their growing needs.

Today, the Pantry has weekly pickups with four local retailers and supplemental pickups from others. "We were amazed with how seamless the program runs, and the quality of donations we received," said Mario Partee, executive director. "This program has been a very good fit for us. It has been great to see how the Food Bank of South Jersey and the agencies work together to ensure a pickup is never missed."

Retail Rescue has helped the pantry keep their weekly Tuesday Produce program going for the past two years – something they would not have been able to sustain without it. "Our Tuesday Produce program helps us offer nutritious food along with recipe suggestions to 50 families," said Mario.

Through their participation in Retail Rescue, the Pantry has also fostered partnerships with their local retailers. "We have been able to get our foot in the door at local businesses because of our pickups," said Mario. "As a result, we've had businesses come in to volunteer and donate clothing items and pet food. When we joined this program, we never expected such successful outcomes. I think any pantry should give the Retail Rescue program a try because you never know what will end up coming out of it."



## Letter from the President & CEO

Greetings!

May this New Year bring continued success, good health, prosperity and blessings to you and your families!

If you are reading this message, then you should feel good about your relationship with the Food Bank of South Jersey's mission. Somehow, somewhere along the way, you had a part in helping someone improve and nourish their life in spirit, mind, body and heart through your gift of selflessness. For this, the Food Bank of South Jersey (FBSJ) is grateful.

Unfortunately, there is much more to do to eradicate food insecurity in our community, but we remain energized and inspired to continue this important work. Looking forward to 2019 and beyond, the Food Bank of South Jersey's board of trustees, staff and key stakeholders will embark on a strategic plan based on the original foundation of the FBSJ mission — to collectively combat hunger; to distribute food and provide technical assistance to qualified agencies; to expand heavily on procuring food, soliciting donations and acquiring funders as well as volunteers; and, to assist in establishing and implementing intentional programs to combat hunger within our communities.

Together we will achieve more; and through the deepening and fostering of relationships, we will increase awareness and get one step closer to eradicating food insecurity in this beloved South Jersey community.

I look forward to meeting you during this journey!

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Fred C. Wasiak  
President & CEO



## PRIVATE/NONPROFIT PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS CAMDEN KIDS

Subaru of America, Inc. wanted to do something significant to celebrate the return of its "Share the Love" national event, an annual philanthropic initiative aimed at supporting charities across the country. But it needed a cause that all Subaru employees across the country could support.

The marketing team, led by Sandy Capell, Subaru's manager of corporate responsibility and philanthropy, and Amy Strawbridge, promotions manager, selected hunger because it is a universal need across the country. As part of the event, the team designated food banks throughout the nation as program beneficiaries.

Subaru's City of Camden headquarters selected the Food Bank of South Jersey as its hometown charity of choice. On November 15, 2018, a team of over 400 Subaru employees based in Camden donated and packed a record-breaking 6,600 KidzPacks in just two and a half hours. KidzPacks contain items that can produce up to four nutritionally-balanced meals and snacks for a child.

"We were thrilled to kick off Share the Love with a special event that combats hunger in our own headquarters' hometown community," said Thomas J. Doll, President and CEO, Subaru of America, Inc.

While the project was an enormous undertaking, team Subaru pulled it off without a hitch. Food was delivered the day before the event and all food items were separated, organized and color coded. It was all hands on deck — employees were constantly packing, refilling and stocking.



### Pictured bottom left:

Fred C. Wasiak, President & CEO, Food Bank of South Jersey and Thomas J. Doll, President & CEO, Subaru of America Inc.

### Pictured at the top and on cover:

Subaru staff volunteering at Camden City headquarters

"The energy in the room was unreal," said Capell. "Every time a gaylord was filled, the team rang a cowbell. At one point, that's all you heard."

Capell added that this was one of the best events they've ever held in terms of impact. "Knowing that our efforts will support more than 160 children in Camden throughout the entire school year feels really good."