



Partnering to End Hunger

FMC Newsletter: February 2021

Greetings!

February has been a month of transition and reflection for us at FMC. We are glad to be able to share some of the important things we've had going on this month.

Regards,
FMC Board

Thank You, Jane!

Our executive board has experienced a big change this month as Jane Brady has stepped down from her position as Board Chair. In using her words from last month's letter, saying thank



you for all she has done through the years hardly seems adequate.

MCFOODS Network began in 1994. Without Jane's concern for the food insecure in our county, MCFOODS would not exist. When she was a freeholder, she saw to it that the county provided support for MCFOODS, a facility from which to operate, and staff to coordinate activities. Retirement did not slow Jane down at

all; she remained a champion of the mission, volunteering at the MCFOODS warehouse, at her local church's pantry, and for Meals on Wheels. She, of course, went on to chair Feeding Middlesex County, which launched in 2017.

We are so grateful for Jane's support, guidance, and fierce dedication over the years. We wish her well as she closes this chapter. There is no doubt that she will remain a champion of our great mission to fight food insecurity in Middlesex County.

Our Dear Friend, Tom



Next month will mark one year since we lost our dear friend and partner, Tom Ellison. As you may know, Tom was an institution at the MCFOODS warehouse. He was passionate about the work he did there and he made it a welcoming place for all.

We had the opportunity to remember and celebrate him with an outdoor gathering at the warehouse a few weeks ago. Jennifer Apostol, MCFOODS Director, spoke about Tom's time with MCFOODS; members of our community and his family attended, and we shared memories, fun stories, and pictures of our friend Tom. And of course, it wouldn't have been a celebration for warehouse-DJ Tom without some great music.

Tom's presence is still so greatly missed. Tom truly went above and beyond in every way and his dedication remains a goal for all of us as we continue to work against food insecurity. A ceramic plaque is being made and will be installed at MCFOODS so we may continue to honor him. We look forward to sharing that with you soon.

Join Us in Welcoming...

...new FMC Chair, Kevin Hoagland! We are happy to have Kevin serve in this role and we know he is eager to get to work. Let's let him tell you a bit about himself:

"My background is in Human Services and public service in both elected capacity and volunteer capacity for different organizations such as the Central Jersey Spinal Cord Association and The Knights of

Columbus. My hope is that I can contribute in any way possible to help FMC increase the number of families and individuals in Middlesex County who are dealing with food insecurity."

Kevin, a lifelong Middlesex County resident, comes to us with great experience and dedication, having been the longest serving County Surrogate. (He retired at the end of 2020.) What you might not know is that he has already been part of the fight against food insecurity in our community. Over the past year-and-a-half, Kevin has launched multiple, wildly successful Facebook fundraisers to benefit FMC, raising and donating over \$8,000.

Again, we welcome him to the team and are grateful that he has chosen to continue his extensive community service by working with us. We know that this mission is of great importance to him and that he is up to the challenge.



MCFOODS Stuff the Truck Event Recap



Before you go, we'd like to quickly thank all those who volunteered and donated this past weekend at the Stuff the Truck food donation event! Many of you stopped by at the East Brunswick Stop & Shop to donate food to help replenish the MCFOODS shelves as well as monetary donations to

FMC. MCFOODS collected about 8,000 pounds of food and necessities and almost \$800!

We've said it many times but it bears repeating - we couldn't do this work without our dedicated volunteers, partner organizations, and all of you who donate what you can when you can. If you were not able to attend the event but would like to donate nonperishable food items to MCFOODS, you can drop them off at the warehouse weekdays from 6am to 12 noon. Visit the [MCFOODS website](#) for more information and you can [click here](#) to make a financial contribution to FMC. Thank you for continuing to support the food insecure in your community! There will be more events coming up so keep your eyes peeled for details!

Don't forget...

If you find yourself shopping online, we invite you to make your Amazon purchases through Amazon Smile. This is another great and easy way to support our organization! You can log into your Amazon account via smile.amazon.com and

designate Feeding Middlesex County. Amazon will donate a portion of the price of your eligible purchases to FMC! "You shop. Amazon gives."



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P.O. Box 781
Edison, N.J. 08818
T: 732-723-8106

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