



Partnering to End Hunger

FMC Newsletter: November 2021

Strategic Planning Begins...

After three years of creating, planning and implementing the work of Feeding Middlesex County...raising funds for purchasing food for the county food bank, Replenish, formerly known as MCFOODS, the Feeding Middlesex County board will now undergo a strategic planning process. Having navigated the challenges of the covid pandemic, the Board would now like to evaluate the current status of hunger in Middlesex County and determine how Feeding Middlesex County can help fulfill the ongoing needs.

There will be a strategic planning committee headed by board member Amy Michael with guidance from Lisanne Finston, a founder of MCFOODS (now known as Replenish) and former executive director of Elijah's Promise for more than 20 years. She is currently executive director of Gould Farm, a therapeutic community providing mental health services to adults. Her extensive experience developing and implementing strategic plans for non-profits will be an asset for Feeding Middlesex County. Ms. Finston was honored in 2019 as a Feeding Middlesex County Hunger Hero for her work establishing MCFOODS. Work will begin this month.

Soccer for a Cause

Last month, the Greater



Middlesex Conference and 14 high school girl soccer teams collected non-perishable foods to be donated to the county food bank, Replenish (formerly known as MCFOODS). Teams from local high schools participated in 7 matches at Metuchen High School. Over 1500 pounds

of food was collected and trucked to the county food bank.

In addition, an event sponsor, the Marisa Tufaro Foundation, donated \$1022.50 to Feeding Middlesex County. Conversations about food insecurity in Middlesex County took place at an information table at the event. Cash donations were also collected by volunteers.

A Unique Fundraising Event

Fifty partiers dressed 70s disco style came to celebrate Tess Tobin's 70th birthday on a Saturday night in September. A-Line dresses, disco boots, bellbottoms, loud print shirts, headbands and so much more adorned a beautiful outdoor setting. Family, old friends, new friends and colleagues joined together to mark the milestone birthday. While they were chatting, dancing and enjoying adult beverages, they were also raising donations for Feeding Middlesex County. Tess commented, "I am so happy I asked my friends and family to make a donation in my name rather than receive gifts....thankful to FMC for their dedication in alleviating food insecurity in our community." More than \$1000 was raised at this event.



A New Way to Give

For the person who has everything, a possible holiday gift could be a donation to Feeding Middlesex County in their name. Known as the *Holiday Hunger Heroes* option, it's as easy as visiting feedingmiddlesexcounty.org/donate or sending a check to **Feeding Middlesex County, P.O. Box 781, Edison, NJ 08818** with name/address/email information on how to acknowledge the donation.

What better way to celebrate the holidays by helping to feed the hungry! And due to covid restrictions, the offices that are not having holiday parties or Secret Santa gift giving, can give the gift of food.



A Productive Relationship

Feeding Middlesex County and Middlesex County are partners in providing aid to our neighbors suffering from food insecurity. The County provides the warehouse space for the county food bank, now known as Replenish and formerly known as MCFOODS. Also provided are the salaries of the warehouse personnel and sundry expenses such as utilities, trucking and more.



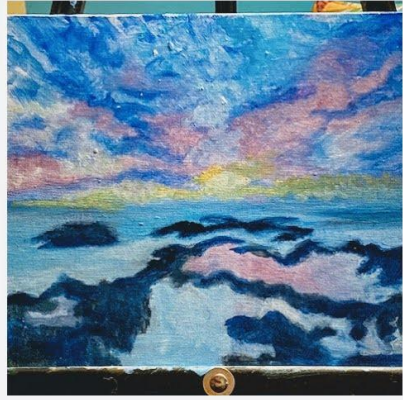
Feeding Middlesex County seeks donations that are used for the purchase of food to supplement the food donated through food drives to the county food bank. A small portion of the donated funds are used to provide grants to Middlesex County food pantries for needed equipment.

Both entities often partner for drive-by food drives, community reach-out at music and performance events, education tables at events and annual events such as Dine Below the Line.

Together, Feeding Middlesex County and Middlesex County are working to fight hunger.

ART = FOOD

Would you like to know how to turn art into food? Feeding Middlesex County Volunteer and Ambassador Isabelle Goldman is the magician that can do it. In the 2020 holiday season, Isabelle created original 8 x 10 paintings with the proceeds donated to Feeding Middlesex County. More than \$1300 was raised and used to purchase food for the Middlesex County food bank, Replenish, formerly known as MCFOODS.



With the 2021 holiday season fast approaching Isabelle is gearing up for this creative project once again. Isabelle said, "One thing you may want to think about is that with our continuing supply chain shortages, your usual shopping may be more challenging this year. So why not give one of my NEW paintings as a gift to family and/or friends?"

Isabelle can reproduce one of her recent works (some photos included). They measure 8 x 10, are on a canvas panel, unframed. The cost of the painting is \$25 with a check

to Feeding Middlesex County for that amount. In addition, there is a \$10 fee for paint, canvas and shipping. That fee can be covered by a check made out to Isabelle Goldman.

You can reach Isabelle directly by phone 732-228-2471, by emailing belleg61@gmail.com or by snail mail **292C Convent Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831**.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

How Can YOU Make a Difference?

1. Volunteer at an Upcoming Event -->[Sign Up NOW](#)
2. Donate while you Shop on Amazon -->[Connect with Amazon Smile](#)
3. Celebrate with a Fundraiser -->[Set up a Facebook Fundraiser](#)





[Donate Now](#)



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

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

