



Partnering to End Hunger

FMC Newsletter: December 2020

Greetings!

Please enjoy our final newsletter of the year.
Stay in touch with us on social media and we will be back in January!

Welcome New FMC Board Member: Ganesh Ramakrishnan

Firstly, we would like you to join us in extending a warm welcome to FMC's newest board member, Ganesh Ramakrishnan! Ganesh is very active in the Hindu community and has been instrumental in gathering his community together to get involved in the issue of food insecurity in Middlesex County. He organized the Sewa

Diwali food drive project in our area, which brought in food and monetary donations to assist MCFOODS Network. His example shows us the importance of not only celebrating what we have, but also sharing what we have with those in need. We are so glad to have him on our board!

Looking Back and Moving Ahead: A 2020 Recap

As we look back at 2020 and begin to plan for what is to come in 2021, consider these statistics:

- More than 70 thousand people in our county don't have enough food.
- 12% of children in Middlesex County live below the poverty threshold.
- 44% of Middlesex County families spend 30% of their income on rent.



This past year was so difficult for so many. Food insecurity was greatly exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic and MCFOODS distributed food in unprecedented amounts. We saw empty shelves at the warehouse in March. Food drive events that normally happen annually had to be cancelled due to COVID19 restrictions and school closures in the spring resulted in cancellation of the annual county school food drive. All the while, more people needed food assistance than ever before.

Your generous donations to FMC gave us the ability to replenish the resources as quickly as we possibly could. You helped get the word out by talking about us & MCFOODS on social media, you held Facebook fundraisers, and you showed up at the many Drive By Food Drives held throughout the county. The way you all have worked to support your community at this crucial time helped strengthen our resolve to keep up the fight again and again.

Through the end of November 2020, FMC spent over \$250,000 on food purchases alone. That was more than four times the amount spent in 2019. It has been said many times - our community experienced incredible hardship this year. With your help, FMC and MCFOODS rose to the occasion, and we will continue to do so in 2021.

Follow Your Dollar: Where does my donation to FMC go?

Your monetary donations to FMC help us financially support organizations that feed the hungry. In the first 10 months of 2020, approximately 96% of the money spent went towards food purchases for MCFOODS. With this series, we invite you to take a closer look at where your money goes when you donate, all the way up to getting food into the hands of those who need it.

Feeding Middlesex County is an all-volunteer 501c3



charity. There are no salaries or benefits. The money we spend is largely for purchasing food for the MCFOODS Network. Some of our expenses also go towards our perpetual goals - raising awareness, applying for and providing grants to member pantries, increasing partnerships, and expanding our volunteer base.

In typical operating years, small portions of our revenue goes toward things like administrative and event costs, but the vast bulk of the money that comes in goes toward food purchases. There are also in-kind food donations. This past year, it is no exaggeration to say that as soon as money came to FMC, it went right back out so that the shelves at the MCFOODS warehouse were stocked. In that same regard, as soon as donated or purchased food came into the warehouse, it went right back out to the food banks and pantries in our network.

Your donations work hard for your community and we work hard to make sure that a little bit goes a long way. With that said, we will leave you with one more important bit of information:

One (1) dollar donated provides three (3) meals.

Keep that in mind as you stay safe & healthy and enjoy this holiday season. We'll see you in 2021!



[Donate Now](#)



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