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Today

## May 2022: Dine with FMC!

### The Walk to End Hunger is BACK!

We are so excited about our next event - [the Walk to End Hunger](#) - coming up on **Saturday, June 18th!**

This year, as we gather back together for this great event, we will be at Raritan Bay Waterfront Park. This is an easy 1-mile walk, suitable for all ages and abilities. Families and business groups welcome, and [pre-registration](#) is recommended. There will be fun, warm-up activities and tables for kid activities related to food insecurity. Snacks and water will be available for the walkers.

Here are some important details:

- This event is **rain or shine**
- Head to the park entrance in South Amboy -**201 John T. O'Leary Blvd**
- Pricing is \$15 for a single person; \$100 team of 10. You can register by filling out [this form](#)
- **Check-in at 10:30 AM** at the Gazebo
- **Walk begins at 11 AM**
- The first 50 walkers at the park will receive a free Feeding Middlesex County t-shirt
- Free recycled bags will be given out until the supply is gone
- Please bring non-perishable food donations
- A 50-50 raffle will be held at the site

We can't wait to see you there, in your walking shoes! Share the event with your Facebook friends by [clicking here](#). Have any questions? [Contact us!](#)

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### A New Hybrid: Dine Below the Line, Live and Virtual

Whether in-person or virtual, the 2022 version of Dine Below the Line was a great success. Featured was a cooking contest with chefs representing three Middlesex County food pantries:

1. Chef Father Marshall Shelly for Alice's CUP at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Spotswood
2. Chef Dan Slobodien, Pearl St. Cafe, for First Presbyterian Church Food Pantry in Metuchen
3. Chef Brian Karluk, Steakhouse 85, for Sharon Baptist Church in New

The chefs presented 3 dishes each, and these were served to the 100 in-person guests at the event location, First Presbyterian Church. The chefs created healthy, nutritious dishes, and In the virtual presentation, each chef was interviewed and was able to display their cooking skills.

Judging was done on two tracks. Judges at the event were Chef Carolina Moratti, restaurant professional Jerome Mangroo and representatives from the Middlesex County Board of Commissioners. The live and virtual audiences voted for their favorites as well. Both votes resulted in **Chef Brian Karluk** being named the winning chef.

The history of Dine Below the Line starts in 2016 with a live dinner utilizing food pantry type ingredients cooked in gourmet fashion—displaying how fine food can be produced on a shoestring budget. This event’s purpose is to educate people about food insecurity and how it is being addressed here in Middlesex County.

Dine Below the Line is a partnership between Feeding Middlesex County and REPLENISH, the county food bank. Event sponsors were Magyar Bank and CME Associates. Thanks to the host, First Presbyterian Church of Metuchen, the event committee members, the church volunteers/servers and the live and virtual audiences representing the food insecurity stakeholders in our county.

Follow us on our social media channels (@FeedingMC1 on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)) if you're interested in the recipes!



## A Special Thank You

Our gratitude goes out to all those dedicated and generous residents of



Monroe Township who participated in the drive-by food drive on April 30.

Special thank-you's go out to the hardworking volunteers from Monroe High School and Nativity of Our Lord Church as well as individual volunteers. Mrs. Ulka Patel, who currently holds the title of Mrs. Bharat New Jersey, and Mrs. Middlesex County, also joined the volunteers that morning. Middlesex County Commissioners Claribel Azcona-Barber, Charles Kenny and Shanti Narra joined the volunteers, expressing their appreciation for the volunteers' service as well as thanking the donors for their food and personal product donations.

Let's break down the stats:

- **More than 250 vehicles** pulled into the Park and Ride on Applegarth Road
- This resulted in **6,367 pounds of donated food and personal products collected**
- **Two vans of products** went to the Monroe Food Pantry with the remainder to REPLENISH, the county food bank
- Over **\$400 in cash was collected** at the event and will go into the Feeding Middlesex County account in order to purchase food for REPLENISH

Thank you to Monroe, and to everyone in our Middlesex County community - you continue to show up and support however you can and we would not be able to help our food insecure neighbors without you.

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## Mark Your Calendar: Event Reminders

### Middlesex County's Plays in the Park

- June 22- July 2 | Something Rotten!
- July 13 – July 23 | Spongebob Squarepants the Musical
- August 3 – 13 | A Chorus Line

At the Stephen J. Capestro Theater, 1 Pine Drive,  
Edison (Roosevelt Park)

*Stop by our table, make a donation, say 'hi!'*



Visit our [Events Calendar](#) to see what else is in store  
for Feeding Middlesex County!

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# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## How Else Can You Make a Difference?

1. Visit our Take Action page to see how you can get involved -->[Make an Impact](#)
2. Volunteer at an Upcoming Event -->[Sign Up NOW](#)
3. Donate while you Shop on Amazon -->[Connect with Amazon Smile](#)



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