

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## FIRST-EVER WOMEN'S LUNCHEON TO FIGHT CHILDHOOD HUNGER Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon to Benefit Community FoodBank of New Jersey

HILLSIDE, NJ – May 3, 2017

The Community FoodBank of New Jersey will host its first-ever Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon on Wednesday, May 10, at the Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit. Due to the generous event sponsorship of Kings Food Markets, and support from the Luncheon's Chairwomen and others, the FoodBank expects to raise more than \$150,000, enough funds to provide over 23,300 Family Packs of weekend food for struggling families across New Jersey.

The event will begin with a volunteer hour at 11 am, sponsored by JPMorgan Chase & Co., during which attendees will personally assemble Family Packs for New Jersey households in need. The FoodBank distributes more than 1,600 of these bags every Friday to New Jersey children at risk of hunger. A bag contains five to six pounds of grains, protein and produce to supplement families over the weekend.

The Luncheon will continue with an entertaining Chef - vs - Chef cooking challenge between Chef Ariane Duarte of Ariane Kitchen & Bar and the FoodBank's own Executive Chef Paul Kapner. Three judges – The Star-Ledger's Peter Genovese, New Jersey Monthly's Suzanne Lowery and Jersey Bites' Deborah Smith – will choose the winning dish made of FoodBank ingredients, while Joanna Gagis, Host of Life & Living and Executive Producer of the Caucus Educational Corporation, emcees the event.

"It's difficult to fathom that almost one in five kids in our great state faces hunger," said Debra Vizzi, President and CEO of the Community FoodBank of New Jersey. "The FoodBank fights hunger every day, with a priority to reach these children. Through an array of child feeding programs, we provide hungry kids with the food and tools they need to lead healthy lives. This Luncheon is a fun way for us to raise awareness and funds to support this important work."

Learn more about the Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon at <u>cfbnj.org/luncheon2017</u>. Media are welcome to attend to cover the event. Please contact Mary Faddoul, Communications Manager, at mfaddoul@cfbnj.org or 908-355-3663 ext. 282 prior to May 10.

The <u>Community FoodBank of New Jersey</u>, a member of Feeding America®, provides people across the state with food, help and hope. The FoodBank distributed over 43 million pounds of food last year to its more than 1,000 community partners including pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, mobile pantries, and child and senior feeding programs. More than 4.7 million times a year, someone in need is fed by the FoodBank's network of partners. For our neighbors, especially families, and for the volunteers and donors who support them, the Community FoodBank of New Jersey is the powerful change agent that fills the emptiness caused by hunger with the basic human essentials that people need to survive.