



# cooking for a cause

WITH CHEF PAUL



## Spring Mango Salsa

- ½ cup diced mango chunks
- ½ cup diced green pepper
- ½ cup diced red bell pepper
- ½ cup diced tomato
- ½ cup cut corn
- ½ cup drained and rinsed black beans
- 4 tsp minced jalapeño pepper
- ¼ cup cider vinegar
- ¼ cup chopped cilantro
- 2 tbsp diced red onion
- 1 lime juiced
- 1 ½ tsp sugar (optional)
- ¼ tsp salt and pepper

1. Combine all ingredients and mix thoroughly
2. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve
3. Serve with corn chips or as a topping for fish

Want more delicious and healthy recipes straight from our kitchen? Follow us on social!

# partner spotlight: **TERUMO**

Terumo Corporation, Terumo Medical Corporation's (TMC) parent company was founded in 1921 with a mission statement of Contributing to Society through Healthcare. As a dedicated CFBNJ Corporate Impact Partner, Terumo works towards its purpose in a much broader sense by going beyond traditional definitions of "healthcare" to include support for initiatives that help reduce hunger.

Over the past five years, Terumo has made several generous financial donations, providing support for our programs and special events. They've also hosted fundraisers and food drives and volunteered at our warehouse to get hands-on in the fight against hunger.

"Terumo has supported CFBNJ with food, funds, and volunteerism – providing all three of our most critical resources," said Carlos Rodriguez, President & CEO of the Community FoodBank of New Jersey. "Such a deep and comprehensive partnership is so meaningful – to us and to the neighbors we serve."

While their first volunteer visit was back in 2013, Terumo began to come in consistently in 2017, and their visits have become more frequent over time. In 2019 alone, they came to the FoodBank five times, volunteering for close to 450 hours.

When pandemic restrictions presented obstacles for corporate volunteers, they took the full initiative to transition from volunteering regularly to participating in virtual campaigns and hosting their own fundraisers. Though they could no longer be with us in person, they were committed to continuing their support of our mission.

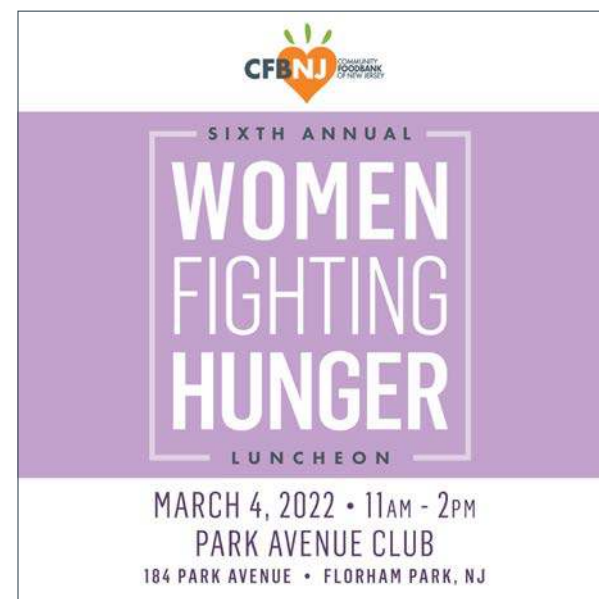
Last year, Terumo participated in the Dinner in a Bag fundraiser for our Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon, with Associates donating over \$1,000 and 155 meal kits, while also sponsoring the Luncheon itself. This year, Terumo took part in our Women Fighting Hunger's #GreatBigDiaperDrive campaign, collecting over 1,900 diapers and



2,800 baby wipes, creams, and other necessities. They also raised \$1,000 in funds, with which CFBNJ can acquire 6,000 more diapers to help the 1 in 3 American families struggling with diaper need.

"I have been very fortunate to have corporate support to lead giving-back events at our company," said Rosemarie Mendes, Sr. Manager, Strategic Events for Terumo and active member of CFBNJ's Women Fighting Hunger. "CFBNJ stands out and earns our support with the wonderful things it does for so many. In addition to Terumo management, my fellow Associates have been so generous with their time and donations."

For more information on how your company can get involved with CFBNJ, please contact Debby Scheinholtz, Senior Director of Corporate Relations and Volunteers, at 908-440-0138 or dscheinholtz@cfbnj.org.



## upcoming:

### WOMEN FIGHTING HUNGER LUNCHEON

This year, our Sixth Annual Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon will engage, educate, and empower women with knowledge about hunger and how they can help support food insecure families and children. Featuring guest speaker Melissa Ben-Ishay, Founder & CEO of Baked by Melissa, and program moderator Natalie Pasquarella of NBC 4 New York, the event will be held on March 4. Presenting Sponsor PNC Bank and Luncheon Sponsor Stop & Shop provided critical support. CFBNJ is also grateful to event chairwomen Jill Gateman of PNC Bank, Wendy Lazarus, Susan Present, Stefanie Shuman of Stop & Shop, Judy Spires, Ashley Washington, and Roby Weinreich.

If you aren't able to attend this early spring gathering, you can still join us later this year as the Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon transitions to a fall event. The Seventh Annual Women Fighting Hunger Luncheon will take place on October 26, rounding out a two-part speaker series. Get your tickets at [cfbnj.org/luncheon](http://cfbnj.org/luncheon).



# the feed

SPRING 2022

STORIES OF FOOD, HELP & HOPE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER

## a spotlight on food sourcing:

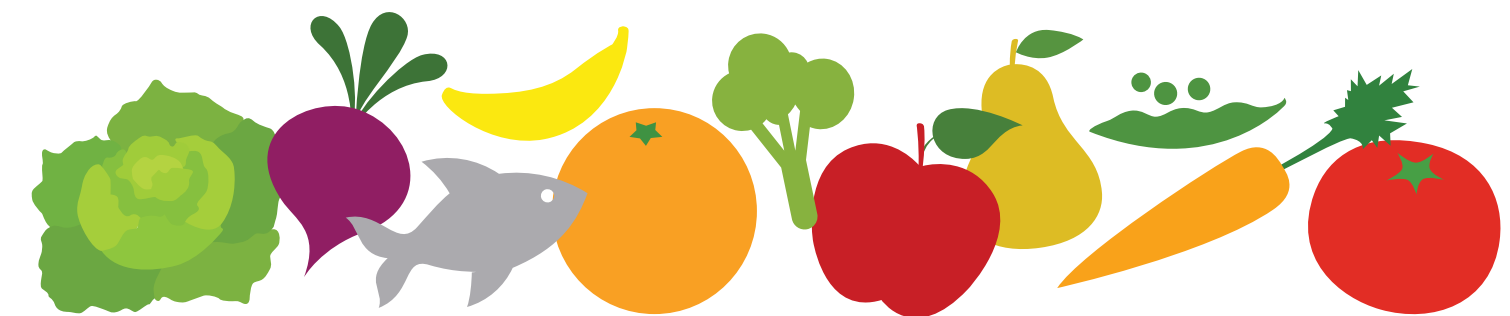
### ADDING NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND INCREASING EFFICIENCY

The Community FoodBank of New Jersey's (CFBNJ) Food Sourcing team is responsible for procuring the food that we distribute to our hungry neighbors through donations, purchases, and government programs. We partner with supermarkets, corporations, farms, transportation companies, and other organizations.

Beginning this year, the team's efforts will be bigger and more strategic than ever. A data-driven approach will ensure optimal decision-making, while new partnerships will allow us to get food from diverse places. This all contributes to CFBNJ's goal of providing 93 million nutritious meals this year.

We've also partnered with the Frontline Appreciation Group, a small nonprofit that has served frontline workers during the pandemic by purchasing meals from restaurants. They've recently changed their model to focus on neighbors in need, working with CFBNJ to connect soup kitchens, food pantries, and other community organizations with participating restaurants. Since August, this partnership has enabled us to feed hungry families while supporting struggling businesses.

Food sourcing efficiency is another major priority for CFBNJ. Through our Enabled Agency program, CFBNJ manages relationships to facilitate direct delivery of food from retail



As we continue to address hunger as a health issue, we're partnering with local New Jersey farms to deliver fresh produce. One of our Food Sourcing Coordinators made dozens of visits to farms last year to forge new partnerships and seek donations. CFBNJ hopes to have a dedicated field at a partner farm where we can harvest our very own fruits and vegetables.

We are also working to commence a seafood gleaning program to reduce waste of bycatch. Instead of being tossed, fish that are caught unintentionally and can't be sold will be given to CFBNJ. New ports have recently been added to expand this opportunity.

stores to community partners. This helps organizations get the food they need fresher and faster, while reducing the number of pickups and deliveries that CFBNJ must make. Currently, 137 community partners participate in the program, which provides an average of 27,000 pounds of food daily. This year, our goal is to provide 13 million pounds of food through the Enabled Agency program. To increase efficiency and maintain all of these incredible partnerships, CFBNJ has expanded its Food Sourcing team from five employees to 14 employees. With these added positions, we can continue to source and distribute more food than ever!

### WHAT'S INSIDE

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# a message

## FROM CARLOS

Dear FoodBank Friends,

What's for dinner? It's a question my two sons ask every night. If you have kids at home, I'm sure it's something you're used to hearing, too. But unfortunately, for 800,000 people in the Garden State, it's a question that often goes unanswered because they just don't know where their next meal is coming from.

For the past two years, to help these hungry households, CFBNJ has relied on our ability to be adaptable. As we've modified our operations to address new and existing challenges, we've also adjusted our responses to food insecurity to meet our diverse neighbors where, when, and how they need us most. We've had to be strategic, always expecting the unexpected.

During the holiday season, you may have seen CFBNJ in the news discussing pandemic-related supply chain issues and their effects on our work. Product shortages, shipping delays, price increases, and reduced availability of donations from supermarkets have created unprecedented challenges. As a result, we've had to adapt to address these difficulties. To meet the increased demand, we preorder food far in advance and have leased additional warehouse space. With new trucks that we've purchased on back order, we're renting additional vehicles to keep up with pickups and deliveries.

And COVID-19 has also made it even more urgent for us to address hunger differently for different people. When we're adaptable in our responses to hunger – looking at different demographics, circumstances, and geographies – we can better serve our neighbors with dignity and respect. Assistance tailored to their specific nutritional requirements is not just what struggling families need but what they deserve.

As steadfast CFBNJ supporters, I know that you understand how complex it is to address an issue as profound as hunger. Your generous donations of food, funds, and time are what help keep us nimble. We continue to distribute more nutritious food than ever before, and we can't do it without you.

Best wishes for a wonderful spring,

Carlos M. Rodriguez  
President & CEO



Follow Carlos on Twitter!  
@FoodBankCarlos



# items of note



## CAN'T MISS! BLUE JEAN BALL 2022

We're excited to bring our annual Blue Jean Ball back in person this year! On Saturday, May 21, join us and other dedicated donors and partners as we celebrate the anti-hunger community with food, drinks, and entertainment against the scenic backdrop of the Hudson River and New York City skyline. RSVP by May 6, and learn more at [cfbnj.org/bluejeanball](https://cfbnj.org/bluejeanball).



## JOIN CFBNJ'S WOMEN FIGHTING HUNGER

The fall 2021 #GreatBigDiaperDrive led by our Women Fighting Hunger was a #GreatBigSuccess! This May, you can look forward to the Women Fighting Hunger continuing to engage with the community by raising awareness about menstrual equity. Interested in joining our Women Fighting Hunger? Visit [cfbnj.org/womenfightinghunger](https://cfbnj.org/womenfightinghunger) for more information.

## CAN'T MISS! NIGHT OF 300,000 MEALS

Join us on Thursday, April 28 as we come together to raise 300,000 meals for our South Jersey neighbors in need! Our annual Night of 300,000 Meals is back and will feature a fun, social evening of culinary delights prepared by local chefs. About 60,000 people in Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties are food insecure, including 19,000 children. Help support them by getting your tickets at [cfbnj.org/300kmeals](https://cfbnj.org/300kmeals)



## PLAN YOUR LEGACY

Make a lasting contribution to the fight against hunger by joining our Food • Help • Hope Legacy Society. Generous benefactors ensure the long-term success of CFBNJ's mission, feeding children, seniors, and neighbors for generations beyond their lifetime. Learn more about the different ways that you can plan your legacy at [cfbnj.planmylegacy.org](https://cfbnj.planmylegacy.org).

FOOD  
HELP  
HOPE



## DONATE MONTHLY

Want to make a difference each month? With an easy one-time sign up, CFBNJ's Sustainers Circle can set you up to gift CFBNJ with a steady stream of monthly donations that will be allocated

to CFBNJ programs that need it the most. Learn more at [cfbnj.org/give-monthly](https://cfbnj.org/give-monthly).

# in your neighborhood



Founded in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Food Brigade provides prepared meals and fresh and packaged foods to our struggling neighbors in Bergen County. The organization is a relatively new CFBNJ community partner and a grant recipient through our Network Investment Initiative.

With the help of the grant, they were able to expand their pantry and food distribution operations by purchasing essentials like freezers, pallet jacks, shelving units, hand trucks, freezer blankets, and winterization items.

"This grant has truly provided the bedrock of our organization," they said. "The support and partnership of CFBNJ has empowered The Food Brigade to become a hub for hunger-relief in Bergen County."

Bergen County has been hard-hit by COVID-19, with particularly high rates of infection early in the pandemic. In addition to distributing food during this time of greatest need, the organization has also provided diapers to struggling families through CFBNJ's diaper program. One neighbor who's back on their feet after having received help from The Food Brigade during the pandemic anonymously expressed their gratitude:

"I wanted to thank you so much for helping me and my family through a hard time," they said. "I finally found a job. I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

## HELPING HANDS

Rick has been a CFBNJ financial donor for years, but when he retired from 44 years practicing law, he came in as a volunteer to see how he could help in person. "There are so many people who have real needs," Rick said. "Volunteering is a way of having a direct impact for people."

Rick has helped with every stage of our operations, from sorting food to preparing meals to assisting with distributions. He now comes to the FoodBank at least one morning per week and has also joined our new Care Crew warehouse ambassador team, guiding other volunteers and taking on more responsibilities. "My philanthropic efforts focus on real-life impact, like health, and human rights," he says. "CFBNJ deals with all – health and family safety, welfare, and togetherness."





# in your neighborhood



For more than fifty years, the Boys & Girls Club of Atlantic City has been a mainstay for South Jersey parents and children. The organization provides afterschool activities, nutritious meals, and workforce development programming.

They're also a grant recipient through CFBNJ's Network Investment Initiative. With the funds awarded, they purchased essential food and beverage equipment, including an industrial freezer to replace an aging one. This will help them store prepared food for afterschool dinners and summer lunches.

"It's our mission to provide resources for the development of young people from all backgrounds to help them realize their full potential as responsible, caring citizens," they said. "We're extremely grateful to have received support from CFBNJ."

Food insecurity in Atlantic City, where much of the economy is comprised of casinos and related tourism and hospitality businesses, is among the highest in our state. The area has also been particularly affected by the economic impact of the pandemic.

And nearly 90% of the kids served by the Boys & Girls Club of Atlantic City are eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches. By providing healthy food and opportunities for the future, the organization helps kids break the cycle of poverty.

"Atlantic City residents, many of whom were already struggling before the pandemic, will need substantial support to recover and move forward with confidence into a new future," they added. "And the Boys & Girls Club of Atlantic City is uniquely positioned to offer this support."

## HELPING HANDS

For Nina, the drive to fight hunger stems from her 26 years as an import and export manager in the food business. Working overseas, she saw widespread hunger and was saddened by the thought that people in her own community didn't have enough to eat. When she retired and returned home, she started helping a neighbor who was struggling and was inspired to volunteer at CFBNJ. "I was looking for a purpose," she said. "Helping out at the FoodBank, I feel like the more I give, the happier I feel." Now, she volunteers two to three times a week in our Egg Harbor Township Community Assistance Pantry, stocking shelves and doing anything else that's needed. "It's hard right now, for everyone," she added. "Food is so expensive, but it makes me feel good to be able to help out."

