kid-friendly cooking for a cause





Peach Crisp

3 cups sliced peaches, fresh with peels on, or canned, drained, and rinsed

½ cup flour

1/3 cup brown sugar

 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup oats

1 tsp cinnamon

¼ cup margarine or butter

½ teaspoon salt

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
- 2. Cut peaches into bite-sized pieces.
- 3. Place peaches in a medium baking dish.
- 4. Combine flour, brown sugar, oats, and cinnamon in a medium bowl.
- Use a fork to mix the margarine or butter into the flour mixture until the mixture becomes crumbly.
- 6. Sprinkle the flour mixture over the peaches.
- 7. Bake for 30 minutes or until peaches are tender.
- 8. Serve warm and enjoy!
- 9. Refrigerate leftovers

Try this recipe with your kids that uses ingredients commonly found in CFBNJ's Family Packs!

Want more delicious and healthy recipes straight from our kitchen?

Follow us on social!

partner spotlight: WALMART

Walmart is a decades-long partner of CFBNJ and Feeding America, helping to fight hunger on both the local and national levels. Walmart employees volunteer often at our Hillside and Egg Harbor Township locations, and the company is also a food donor and a frequent provider of critical grants.

Most recently, Walmart donated \$100,000 to our Recovery Challenge Initiative, a multi-year fundraising campaign focused on emergency response and investment in historically under-resourced neighborhoods

In May, to bolster this contribution, Walmart also hosted a trio of free health and wellness events for neighbors in need at food pantries in Hillside, Bridgeton, and Egg Harbor Township. The events featured visits by Walmart's Mobile Wellness Trailers, which offered COVID-19 vaccines and boosters for adults and children, as well as health screenings, pharmacist consultations, and eyeglass adjustments and cleanings. Those in attendance also received Walmart reusable bags, just in time for the state's single-use bag ban to take effect.

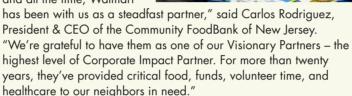
"Hunger and the demand for healthcare know no boundaries and affect all of our communities," said Jennifer Hoehn, Walmart's Director of Public Affairs. "Walmart is proud to join with our long-term partners at the Community FoodBank of New Jersey to help our neighbors in need. These events, along with our Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign, went a long way in helping communities to live better by expanding access to healthcare and nutritious food."

This year also marked the ninth year of the Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign, which gets Walmart and Sam's Club customers, members, and suppliers involved in the fight against hunger. Each year, CFBNJ is a grateful beneficiary of the campaign, and in 2019, Walmart provided an additional Fight Hunger. Spark Change. grant to



fund an installation in CFBNJ's warehouse of neighbors' photos and stories.

"Through multiple natural disasters, during COVID-19 and all the time. Walmart



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.

WITH THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE IMPACT PARTNERS!

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CFBNJ Impact Partners is an annual program. This funding reflects giving through April 2022 and includes contributions received via Feeding America.







fighting hunger when school's out

Instead of enjoying care-free weekends, hungry children and their families often struggle to replace the free school breakfasts and lunches that they rely on. Parents skip meals to make groceries last longer. Kids return to school on Mondays tired and hungry, which makes their learning very difficult.

That's why the Community FoodBank of New Jersey's (CFBNJ) Family Pack program provides boxes of supplemental fresh and shelf-stable food to kids in need when school's out. We know that where there's a hungry child, there's a hungry household, so each Family Pack contains enough food to sustain an entire family over the weekend. And with four unique menus, we ensure that struggling households receive a different variety of nutritious foods each week, including rice, fruits and vegetables, oats, canned proteins, and more.

During the pandemic, when need was higher than ever and demand for grab-and-go food assistance was on the rise, CFBNJ began distributing Family Packs over the summer, as well, which has never been done before.

The program has made a tremendous difference at places like First Avenue School in Newark, where about 300 families are Family Pack recipients. Seven-year-old Neymar, a second grader at the school, used to hide extra food from





the lunchroom in his backpack to take home to his family when they didn't have enough to eat. His teachers noticed that he was always hungry and unable to focus during lessons.

In response, Ms. Aquino, the school's Parent Liaison, enrolled Neymar's household in the Family Pack program. Since then, his academic performance and engagement have improved significantly, and Neymar can often be found sneaking into his cubby at school to eat the extra fruits that his family receives.

"My favorite part about the Family Packs are the different fruits we get that I can share with my family," Neymar shared.

Ms. Aquino, who facilitates the program at First Avenue School, also receives Family Packs for her daughter, who has elevated cholesterol. She is grateful for the help and notes that the program has improved the health and well-being of students while building community among parents and school staff.

"There are even recipes inside the Family Packs to help parents stay on track with their kids' health," Ms. Aquino said. "We have a lot of diverse families here in Newark, and the school has really built trust with them through this program."

As kids head back to school this fall, we at CFBNJ are committed to helping them reach their full potential through programs like Family Pack.

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Follow Carlos on Twitter! @FoodBankCarlos



a message

FROM CARLOS

Dear FoodBank Friends,

As a new school year begins, we at CFBNJ are hyper-focused on kids like Neymar, whom you read about on the front page of this issue of The Feed. With consistent access to nutritious food through our food distribution efforts and programs like Family Pack, we can help boost their attentiveness in class, energize them to achieve their goals, and prepare them to join the next generation of changemakers in the fight against hunger.

But even before the pandemic, 41% of New Jersey's children lived in households experiencing financial hardship, according to a new report by the United Way of Northern New Jersey. While 12% of kids lived below the federal poverty line, an additional 29% resided in asset limited, income constrained, employed households (ALICE). These families earned above the federal poverty level but were still unable to afford the bare minimum of modern living expenses.

The COVID-19 pandemic further complicated the situation for kids, who faced additional setbacks to their education, lost access to school meals, and missed socializing with friends – among other struggles. Still today, the odds are stacked against children in need. That's why stories like Neymar's mean so much to us at CFBNJ. With access to our Family Pack program, he went from struggling to stay awake in class to thriving academically and socially.

CFBNJ is an advocate for hungry children and a provider of essential food and other resources for their families. You can be too! September is Hunger Action Month, a time to mobilize with the Feeding America network of food banks in an effort to end hunger. You can make an impact for kids like Neymar by:

- Donating funds to CFBNJ every \$1 you give helps us provide 3 nutritious meals.
- Volunteering your time in one of our warehouses or at off-site events.
- Hosting a food drive at work or in your community and encouraging donations of healthy non-perishables.
- Advocating to your local representatives and spreading the word to others about the problem of hunger in New Jersey.

Thank you for helping us feed our neighbors in need! Your support makes a real difference, during Hunger Action Month and all year long.

Best wishes for a wonderful fall,

Carlos M. Rodriguez President & CEO

items of note

BLUE JEAN BALL 2022 RAISES CLOSE TO \$1.6 MILLION FOR FOOD, HELP, AND HOPE

We were thrilled to bring our annual Blue Jean Ball back in person this year! The event was a tremendous success, with more than 420 attendees coming together at Liberty State Park's Central Railroad Terminal in Jersey City to raise \$1.6 million for our neighbors in need. The Emmy Award-winning Fab Four Beatles tribute band provided entertainment for the evening, which also featured food trucks, a gourmet dinner, and a formal awards presentation. This year's FOOD, HELP, and HOPE honorees were Acme & Kings Nourishing Neighbors, Bank of America, and CFBNJ's Bergen County partners.

Thank you to the attendees, honorees, sponsors, performers, and all who made the Blue Jean Ball possible!



NEW! ADVOCACY PROGRAM AT CFBNJ In March, CFBNJ welcomed

Adele LaTourette as our new

Senior Director of Policy

& Advocacy.
This marked the establishment of Advocacy as an official new program area at the FoodBank. Our advocacy efforts go hand in hand with food distribution, aiming to shorten the line of neighbors in need at food pantries through meaningful policy changes. Keep up with CFBNJ through our social media and newsletters for the latest

advocacy updates!







CAN'T MISS! FALL WOMEN FIGHTING HUNGER LUNCHEON

On October 26, join us for the second in a series of two Women Fighting Hunger Luncheons for this year! As we transition our annual luncheon from spring to fall, we would like to welcome you again to the Park Avenue Club in Florham Park for an afternoon spent connecting with women who care deeply for children and families in need. Visit **cfbnj.org/luncheon** to get your tickets.



in your neighborhood



New Hope Community Ministries, one of our dedicated community partners and a CFBNJ Network Investment Grant recipient, has been a pillar of support for the Prospect Park and Haledon communities since 2015, offering professional counseling, immigration clinics, youth programs, food distributions, and more to over 600 residents.

In response to COVID-19, New Hope began hosting emergency food distributions to provide neighbors in need with fresh food and household supplies. With help from a Network Investment Grant from CFBNJ, they were able to continue these operations, serving about 480 individuals and distributing nearly 2,000 pounds of fresh produce in a matter of months.

"Grant funding from CFBNJ was essential to our COVID-19 response," they shared. "It's what made it possible for us to continue our emergency food distributions."

In addition to the purchase of emergency supplemental food, such as ground beef, cheese, cereal, rice, pancake mix, and condiments, Network Investment Grant funds were also used to cover rent, utilities, staffing, the procurement of trash and recycling containers, the purchase of a new refrigerator to store increased amounts of fresh food, and snow removal for safe outdoor food distributions.

Sandra, a beneficiary of New Hope's Teen Leaders, Food Pantry, and Counseling Program, shared that when she and her family fell ill from COVID-19, she turned to New Hope. "There was no way we could go out to buy food and cleaning supplies," Sandra told us. "Receiving donations from the pantry really helped us. I don't know what we would have done if it wasn't for that."

HELPING HANDS

For over thirty years, Kenneth has been with CFBNJ as a volunteer in his spare time. Recently, after Kenneth retired, he began spending most of his mornings sorting, prepping, and packaging meals at our warehouse, while also volunteering regularly at Morristown and Parsippany community partners, distributing



food and meals from CFBNJ. "I feel fortunate to see both sides of it," he shared. Kenneth volunteers to serve a purpose for his community, telling us that volunteering is the main focus of his life. "I'm trying to do a little thing in my community to help people," he shared. "I think that's the best way to make a difference."

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in your neighborhood



Earlier this year, CFBNJ and the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) awarded nearly \$500,000 in grants to 15 local nonprofits providing food assistance in Atlantic City. The funds will help these organizations to expand their operations and implement creative approaches to advancing the food security of Atlantic City residents in need.

This was the second round of grants provided by CFBNJ as part of our multi-year, multi-million-dollar commitment to supporting hunger-relief organizations as they respond to the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Atlantic City has been one of the hardest-hit cities in the country by the pandemic's economic effects," said Carlos Rodriguez, CFBNJ's President & CEO. "We're thrilled to provide muchneeded support to organizations that are instrumental in the city's recovery and in the fight against hunger."

Innovative work chosen to receive grant funding included a community garden, translation services for immigrant clients, a workforce development program for parents and children, a mobile pantry paired with a literacy program, and more.

Leadership support from CRDA made this initiative possible. CFBNJ and CRDA have partnered closely throughout the pandemic, working to help casino employees and Atlantic City residents grappling with unprecedented levels of unemployment and food insecurity.

"CRDA is committed to addressing food insecurity in Atlantic City, and we are proud to partner with the Community FoodBank of New Jersey to provide support to families in need during these unprecedented times," they told us.

HELPING HANDS

Mike has been volunteering with CFBNJ since 2016, when he came to South Jersey after spending years overseas in Eastern Europe and Africa as part of the US State Department. For the past four



years, he has been vital to the operations of our mobile pantries, helping to distribute fresh produce and proteins to neighbors in Atlantic, Cumberland, and Cape May counties. "What I enjoy about volunteering is that there are good people working together to do good things," Mike shared. "When you volunteer with CFBNJ, you're doing something with people who are like-minded and care about helping people who need extra assistance."