

OUR MISSION

WE SERVE AS A CHAMPION FOR ADDRESSING ROOT

CAUSES OF HUNGER, DELIVERING NEIGHBOR-CENTERED SOLUTIONS,

AND FOSTERING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS ALL

SECTORS OF SOCIETY FOR NEW JERSEY.



In the 50 years since CFBNJ's founding, food banking has evolved from an emergency response for immediate needs to a driving force behind systemic change that can address food insecurity in the long-term. Factors like income inequality, disproportionate need among at-risk groups, the rising prices of essentials, and the impacts of recent events like the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated need and accelerated this transformation.

That's why our vision to build healthier, hunger-free communities across New Jersey is more relevant and imperative than ever before.

This ambition, informed by the voices of our neighbors, is the culmination of 50 years of work by dedicated staff, volunteers, community partners, advocates, supporters, and more. In honor of CFBNJ's golden anniversary, we interviewed 50 of these influential people. You'll meet a few of them ahead in this annual report.

As we celebrate the history that's brought us to where we are today and with one year of progress on our strategic plan under our belts, we're also looking ahead to what the next 50 years will bring for the FoodBank and hunger-relief in New Jersey. These are uncertain times. Changes to food assistance policies can affect our ability to continue our mission and meet the needs of our communities. But with your help, we will stay flexible and responsive, continue to innovate, embrace community-based solutions, and collaborate across sectors to build a food secure future for all.

Thank you for being an integral part of CFBNJ's history so far. Your support is setting the foundation for our next five decades, in which I know we can solve hunger together.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth McCarthy President & CEO

FOOD INSECURITY IS SOLVABLE

PRIORITY #1 NEW ADISTRIE To improve set enhance the in reliability, add and measure set.

NEW AND BETTER DISTRIBUTION

To improve service to our community partners and enhance the impact of our shared work, we will enhance reliability, address unmet needs, reduce disparities, and measure satisfaction with our collective response.

PRIORITY #2

HEALTHY AND NOURISHING FOOD IS A PRIORITY FOCUS FOR NEIGHBOR WELLNESS

To promote wellness, we will provide healthy food and nutrition education, prioritizing the procurement of local New Jersey products when possible.

PRIORITY #3

IMPROVE AND SERVE AS AN ACTIVIST AND INVESTOR IN THE NEW JERSEY FOOD SECURITY ECOSYSTEM

To achieve our vision, we must facilitate partnership and collaboration across sectors at significantly higher levels than the organization has ever achieved in its history.

AN UPDATE ON CFBNJ'S STRATEGIC PLAN

WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR:

NEW AND BETTER DISTRIBUTION

PARTNER COLLABORATION COUNCIL: Established an advisory council with 32 representatives from community partner organizations to gather valuable perspectives and foster engagement on key issues

COUNTY-BY-COUNTY LISTENING SESSIONS: Conducted listening sessions with executive leaders to receive candid feedback and address concerns

PARTNER SATISFACTION DATA COLLECTION: Began soliciting partner satisfaction feedback through a new "report card" that measures progress against goals

VIRTUAL WEBINARS: Launched a series of webinars to offer technical assistance and share best practices with community partners

NETWORK INVESTMENT GRANTS: Invested \$4.2 million to provide grants that funded partners' capacity-building projects, such as increasing handicap accessibility, installing additional refrigeration, securing new transportation or warehouse equipment, and more

HEALTHY AND NOURISHING FOOD IS A PRIORITY FOCUS FOR NEIGHBOR WELLNESS

NUTRITION POLICY: Created and operationalized a neighbor-informed nutrition policy that ranks more than 14,000 food items by nutritional value

STATEWIDE GROWING HEALTHY PANTRIES INITIATIVE: Launched a strategic collaboration with all five New Jersey food banks that offers a best practice toolkit to help pantries increase neighbor choice, emphasize healthy options, and pursue strategies for greater impact

IMPROVE AND SERVE AS AN ACTIVIST AND INVESTOR IN THE NEW JERSEY FOOD SECURITY ECOSYSTEM

SCHOOL MEALS EXPANSION: Successfully advocated for the expansion of school meal programs to ensure that more children receive the nutrition they need

SNAP AND WIC LEGISLATION: Supported essential legislations to strengthen and expand critical federal nutrition programs

SUMMER EBT: Facilitated outreach efforts to encourage registration for Summer EBT food benefits, helping to fill the meal gap for kids when school meals aren't available

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IN HONOR OF CFBNJ'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY, WE INTERVIEWED 50 OF THE AMAZING PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED SHAPE OUR ORGANIZATION'S JOURNEY. READ A FEW OF THEIR STORIES IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT, AND VISIT CFBNJ.ORG/CFBNJ-50 TO SEE THE REST.



CATHY MCCANN



RETIRED CFBNJ VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS

Cathy McCann had recently left a successful logistics career at Pepsi when a mutual friend connected her with Kathleen DiChiara. Cathy's skills and dedication met Kathleen's conviction and boundless energy, and the rest is history. Kathleen convinced her to "join us for six months – and then we will sit down for an evaluation." But that evaluation never happened, and for thirty-five years Cathy helped to build CFBNJ as we know it today.

When Cathy joined in 1984, CFBNJ was operating out of its very first warehouse in Newark. The entire staff consisted of five people, plus a retiree who did odd jobs and a part-time truck driver. There was no money for them to purchase a truck, so they rented or borrowed one when they could. The space was so narrow that everything had to be loaded by hand – they had no forklifts or pallet jacks in those days.

Cathy remembered, "If a delivery came in, every single employee stopped whatever they were doing to carry food through case by case by case."

Food banking was a young movement. Every day was something new, and every decision was an experiment. Yet, in that first year together, they moved a million pounds of food.

To Cathy, "giving and getting back is everything." She loved going home from work every day, knowing that together she and the staff had made the world a little bit better. She looks back on her long career "with gratitude for the meaning that my work at CFBNJ gave to my life."

1975

One Woman's Heart

Kathleen DiChiara sees need in the community and begins collecting and distributing food from the back of her station wagon, using her garage as storage and her kitchen as an office. 1982

It's Official

The Community FoodBank of New Jersey is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, distributing 150,000 pounds of food during the year.

(201) 483-8500 (ext. 262)

1987

The Effort Expands

CFBNJ expands its hunger relief efforts to South Jersey with a new location in Landisville, which would later move to Egg Harbor Township.

HASSAN HOOKER



CFBNJ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Hassan Hooker says he's alive today because of CFBNJ. Reflecting on his tough early years in Newark's public housing, he shared, "I was going 100 miles an hour down the wrong path, but the FoodBank saved me. On the streets, I wasn't doing the right things."

But everything changed for him in 1996 when his uncle and a friend got jobs at CFBNJ and brought him to meet Kathleen DiChiara.

"She told me, 'I'm going to start you as a day laborer and see how you work out.' By Friday, she offered me a full-time position," he recalled. Hassan has been with CFBNJ ever since, now serving as its longest-tenured employee.

Starting as a warehouse selector, he worked his way up to Assistant Director of Operations. "Every day, I start at six in the morning, and I'm nonstop busy until 2:30," Hassan explained.

Another constant in his life is the special place that Kathleen DiChiara has in his heart.

"No matter what you were going through, she was always there to help," he said. For Hassan, this included help getting diapers when his second child was born: "I don't think I paid for diapers the whole time my son was in diapers. She made sure of that."

Hassan's work is especially meaningful to him because he grew up receiving food assistance from organizations like CFBNJ. Now, stable and fulfilled, he said, "That's why I put so much effort into what I do."



1993

285,000 Square Feet of Hope

CFBNJ's headquarters moves to its current home at 31 Evans Terminal in Hillside.

Children are the Future

1999

CFBNJ launches its Kids Cafe program, providing after-school meals prepared in its new commercial kitchen.



Equip and Empower

CFBNJ graduates its first class of students from the Food Service Training Academy, a 12-week culinary and life skills program.

CRAIG J. COUGHLIN



NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLY SPEAKER

New Jersey Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin fondly reflects on his relationship with CFBNJ and his commitment to addressing hunger, a cause he has championed since taking office.

"One of my first actions as Speaker was to meet with the FoodBank," he recalled. "I walked into their building and felt the warmth, the commitment. It felt like a place where people genuinely care about the community."

Since 2018, Coughlin has made food insecurity a legislative priority, working to expand access to nutritious food and reduce the stigma surrounding hunger. His connection to the FoodBank goes beyond policy work. He has developed a genuine admiration for the organization's values.

"For me, the FoodBank embodies dignity and respect for those in need. They've created a system where people can choose their food, much like any of us would at a grocery store," he said. "That choice makes all the difference. It changes the experience for families and individuals."

Coughlin's efforts have focused on expanding the reach of food assistance programs, especially in underserved communities. He emphasizes that hunger isn't an isolated issue; it's deeply tied to other challenges like housing, employment, and healthcare.

"Addressing hunger means looking at the bigger picture," he explained. "People who need food assistance often face multiple barriers, and if we can tackle hunger, we're helping to lift up our communities in so many other ways."

Looking toward the future, Coughlin has big hopes for the FoodBank's continued success: "Hunger isn't just a local issue; it's something we all must address together. And I believe that with innovative thinking and partnerships, we can make New Jersey a model for the entire country."

2001



Face the Storm

Despite power outages and major flooding in its warehouse, CFBNJ responds to statewide need in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy.

2017

A New Approach

CFBNJ hones its focus on hunger as a health issue, introducing new, holistic nutrition programs and increasing fresh produce distribution.

The Rising

After the September 11 World Trade Center attack, CFBNJ serves as the processing center for all relief donations arriving from points west and south of New York City.

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LOIS BENNETT



FOUNDER/ DIRECTOR, FEEDING HANDS

Lois Bennett never imagined she would end up running one of the largest food pantries in New Jersey. But looking back now, it makes perfect sense. Her journey started with a deep understanding of struggle.

"Two of my three kids were born with a genetic condition that was supposed to kill them before they left high school," she shared. The challenges of raising a family while navigating the medical system, insurance battles, and financial strain opened her eyes to just how hard life could be. "I would say to my husband, 'I have no idea how a single mom does it.'"

That question turned into action. Lois started small, helping to collect and distribute food through her church. It wasn't long before she launched her own pantry, eventually establishing Feeding Hands as a formalized nonprofit ten years ago.

"When I first started, I was putting food in my car, driving it to make sure people got fed," she recalled.

That hands-on dedication has grown into an impressive operation, and Feeding Hands now mobilizes 23,000 volunteer hours each year to address food insecurity in Somerset County, in partnership with CFBNJ. "Without the FoodBank, there's no way I could have started this pantry. They took me in, made it happen for me, and now we're feeding thousands."

Looking ahead, Lois has a clear vision of what needs to change: "Food is a basic need. I would love to see our country recognize that. We'll probably never get to zero hunger, but we need to be advocating more, to the government, to donors, to anyone who will listen."



2020

CFBNJ innovates, expands distribution, and mobilizes resources to ensure access to nutritious food in response to unprecedented need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hope is Here

Today, CFBNJ is the state's largest anti-hunger, anti-poverty organization the hub for a robust network of hundreds of local food assistance organizations, distributing food for tens of millions of nutritious meals annually.



WE'RE PROUD THAT CFBNJ'S BRAND NEW GARFIELD UNITY PANTRY OPENED IN 2024!



witamy

Learn more at cfbnj.org/garfield-unity-pantry.

2019



Governor Phil Murphy takes bold action to combat hunger in New Jersey by signing Speaker Craig Coughlin's comprehensive hunger relief bill package into law.

2025

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THANKS TO DEDICATED SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU, CFBNJ PROVIDED ENOUGH FOOD FOR MORE THAN 90 MILLION MEALS TO NEW JERSEY NEIGHBORS LAST YEAR.



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Ilona Seibert and Diana Sohnle Janet Shapiro Mahendra Solanki

Carrie and Ken Somberg Paul Stangas Steve Summa

Billee Wolff

Cynthia Wade

Roby and Joshua Weinreich Josh Weston

In Memoriam Members

FOOD • HELP • HOPE **Legacy Society**

David Aalderks Lorette Abramson

Marian Achor Rachel Alper James D. Andrews

Robert Lee Barnes Ruth G. Bedford

Helen Brutofsky Cara M. Corbo

William Crimbring Steven and Dorothy Deli Theresa DeSantis

Elaine Dooman

June Flynn Paul Ford

Genevieve Giordano Iris Gittelman Fred Goldstein

Ruth A. Harvey

Paul Gamarello

Patricia Joan Foss

Mary Herberich Jules Hirsch Betty E. Hoehne

Louise E. Hoffman

Susan B. Joseph

Stella Hordes John J. Hurley Hilding Johnson

Mary Jane Kenny Anna Lamontain

James Licata

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Roxann Lissek

Bernadette Alicia Lynch James and Leila Mahan Emiliano Mazzarella

Mary K. McGrath

Helen and Robert McHale

Robert V. Miller William Mirra Eleanor Monaghan Pedro Navarro

Ira Newman

Jane Peck

Gabriel James Picozzi Marian and Alan Reinheimer

Sharon Roling

Gwynne Romig

Philip and Gloria Ruegger

Eileen Saar Arthur J. Sabatini

Marie Sanduzzi

Frances S. Schueler Louis Schmieder

Donald Shachat

Barbara E. Shalit Caroline Siess

Dr. Allen J. Simonson Agnes L. Stano

Steve and Lila Teitelbaum

Winifred Tuorto

James D. Van Blarcom

Daniel Wagner Thomas Walker Marjory Walters Judy Weston

Martin Wolff

Gifts In-Kind (Food, 100,000+ lbs)

Acme Markets

Amazon Fresh Amazon.com, Inc. America's Grow-a-Row

Bimbo Bakeries USA BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc.

Blue Apron Inc.

Colavita USA

Costco Wholesale Corporation

Exp Group LLC

FreshPro Food Distributors

Glass Gardens, Inc.

GongCook

Keurig Dr. Pepper Inc. Kings Food Markets

Liberty Coca-Cola Beverages Marmora DC

Premio Foods, Inc. Resnick Distributors Saker ShopRites, Inc.

Sam's Club

ShopRite of Hunterdon County Inc.

Stop & Shop

Tabatchnick Fine Foods

Target Trader Joe's

Tropicana Products, Inc. US Foods Metro NY

Village Super Market, Inc. Wakefern Food Corp.

Walmart, Inc. Wegmans

Whole Foods Market

Wildfare Yesly Water Zerega

Gifts In-Kind

(Non-Food, \$5,000+)

Anonymous

Boston Consulting Group

CBS 2 New York Harvest Restaurant Group

My9NJ/WWOR-TV NBC Sports (NSPN, NSPP) OUTFRONT Media, Inc.

Park Avenue Club

PIX 11

SportsNet New York

SportsNet New York-Hartford

WJLP **WJNS** WNET WNJN WNJT

YES Network

Check-Out Hunger ® 2023 New Jersey Sponsor

Premio Foods, Inc.

Check-Out Hunger ® 2023 Participating Stores

Foodtown The Fresh Grocer Freshtown

Pathmark Price Rite Marketplace

QuickChek ShopRite

Village Super Market, Inc.

Wawa Wegmans

IN HONOR OF CFBNJ'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY, MEMBERS OF THE NEXT 50 LEADERSHIP CIRCLE HAVE STEPPED UP WITH ENHANCED CONTRIBUTIONS — PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE FOODBANK'S LEGACY AND ENSURING OUR VITAL WORK CONTINUES FOR YEARS TO COME.

THE NEXT 50 **LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**

ACME + Kings Nourishing Neighbors Casino Association

of New Jersey Joe & D'Maris Dempsey **Andy & Pamela Federbusch**

The Ferolie Family The Gateman Family

Alan & Melanie Levitan **Chris & Patty Perry**

Peerless Beverage Company **PSEG**

Teixeira Family Foundation

The Tepper Foundation Wakefern Food Corp

Josh & Roby Weinreich



THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE IMPACT PARTNERS...

CFBNJ IS GRATEFUL TO THE COMPANIES THAT FUEL OUR MISSION.

IN 2024, 144 CORPORATE IMPACT PARTNERS GAVE FOOD, FUNDS, AND TIME TO HELP OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

Visionary Partners (\$100,000+ or 1 Million+

Pounds of Food)

ACME + Kings Nourishing Neighbors

Albertsons Companies Foundation

Amazon Anonymous

Bank of America

Bayer Fund Costco

CVS Health Dave.com

Goldman Sachs Gives

Horizon Foundation for New Jersey

Jersey Mike's Johnson & Johnson JPMorgan Chase

Morgan Stanley/Morgan Stanley Foundation

Peerless Beverage Company

Premio Foods, Inc.

Prudential/Prudential Foundation

PSEG Foundation

Spencer Spirit Holdings, Inc.

Stop & Shop

Target Corporation

TD Bank/TD Charitable Foundation

Trader Joe's

Wakefern Food Corp. Walmart & Sam's Club

The Wawa Foundation

Leadership Partners (\$50,000 - 99,999 or 500,000+ Pounds of Food)

ADP BJs

Blue Apron

Bristol Myers Squibb Caesars Entertainment

Charles Schwab

Chatham Asset Management

Chick-Fil-A CRA Financial Services LLC

Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation **Enterprise Holdings Foundation**

Exp Group Merck

New Jersey Devils, Prudential Center. and Devils Youth Foundation

Novo Nordisk QuickChek

Sanofi South Jersey Industries

TJX Companies Tropicana

Tropicana North America

Weamans Food Markets

United Airlines Village Super Market

Zerega

Champion Partners (\$25,000 - 49,999)

Anonymous Beniamin Moore **BNY Mellon**

Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa/MGM Resorts

Foundation **Broadridge Financial Solutions**

CA Ferolie Capital One Bank

Citizens Bank Foundation Crate & Barrel

The Depository Trust and Clearing

Corporation (DTCC) Fifth Generation

Google Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City

Harvest Restaurants Lineage Logistics

New Jersey American Water

New Jersey Performing Arts Center New York Football Giants Optimus Healthcare Partners

Paul Miller Subaru

Starbucks Terumo Medical Corporation

Teva Pharmaceuticals Valley Bank **ZT Systems**

Volunteer Partners (\$10,000 - 24,999)

AIG

Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.

Ameriprise Financial Anonymous (2)

Arch Capital Services LLC

Atlantic City Electric, an Exelon Company AtlantiCare Health System

Blue Cross Blue Shield C&S Wholesale Campbell Soup Co **CBA** Industries

Chubb Charitable Foundation

Cigna Healthcare Constellation Brands, Inc. **CVC Capital Partners**

Deloitte Disney Domino's Draft Kings Edrington

Fidelity Investments

Formosa Plastics USA Forvis Mazars

Goya Foods **HCL** Technologies

Hearst Corporation Hikma

Indus Valley Partners

Innophos

Inserra Supermarkets LS Technologies, LLC

Lynch Metals McCarter & English

McDonald's Owner/Operators Association

Mondelēz International

MUFG National Basketball Association

New York Life Insurance Company NJM Insurance Group Novartis US Foundation Ocean Casino Resort

OceanFirst Foundation

One Main Financial Pfizer, Inc.

Phillips 66 PNC Bank/PNC Foundation

Port Royal Sales Provident Bank

R. Seelaus & Co., Inc. The Ralph Lauren Corporate Foundation

Russo Property Management & Russo Development RWJBarnabas Health

Seafrigo Seashore Fruit & Produce Co.

Santander Bank

Star Group Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

Summit Health Cares Svsco

Wonder

Tata Consultancy Services Terreno Realty Corporation

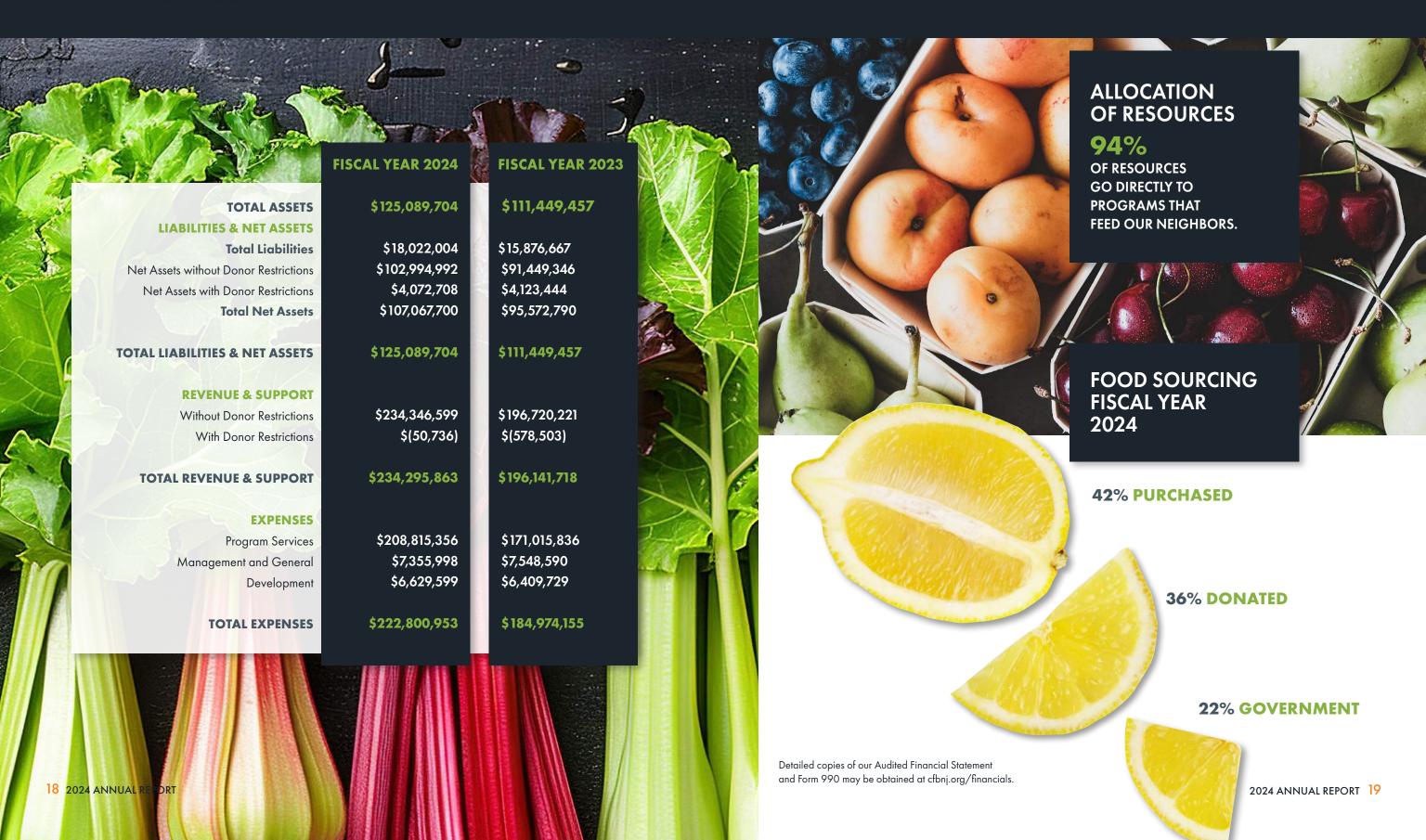
Touch Dynamics United Healthcare

*CFBNJ Impact Partners is an annual program. Funding reflects giving between December 2023 and

via Feeding America.

December 2024 and includes contributions received

CONDENSED SUMMARY OF FINANCIALS



CFBNJ LEADERSHIP

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Toju Chike-Obi

Kathy Corbalis

Suzanne Hall

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David Bernhaut

Michael Pembroke

Edward Russo

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Jeannie Fournier, Chief Impact Officer

Cara Gabris, Chief of Staff

Michelle Karem, Chief Development Officer

Gerald Maloney, Chief Financial Officer

Terrence Williams, Psy. D., Chief People Officer

Renee Helfenstein, Assistant Vice President, Events, Marketing, & Communications

Adele LaTourette, Assistant Vice President, Policy & Advocacy

Andrea Peter, Assistant Vice President, Human Resources

Walter Wallace, Assistant Vice President, Operations

*List as of 3/1/2025

WOMEN FIGHTING HUNGER STEERING COMMITTEE

Susan Present, Co-Founder

Wendy Lazarus

Roby Weinreich



Gary Gabriel

Dave Gibbons

John Saraceno

Joseph Taylor

Mark Wilf

she founded CFBNJ when she started giving out food from the back of her station wagon in downtown Newark. Under Kathleen's leadership as Executive Director until 2015, she propelled the organization towards its mission of ensuring that everyone in New Jersey has enough to eat. During her incredible life, Kathleen was recognized by three U.S. Presidents, three Governors of New Jersey, and even Pope John Paul II, among many other prestigious awards and honors. She was a 2013 inductee of the New Jersey Hall of Fame and received eight honorary doctorates from colleges and universities in New York and New Jersey.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

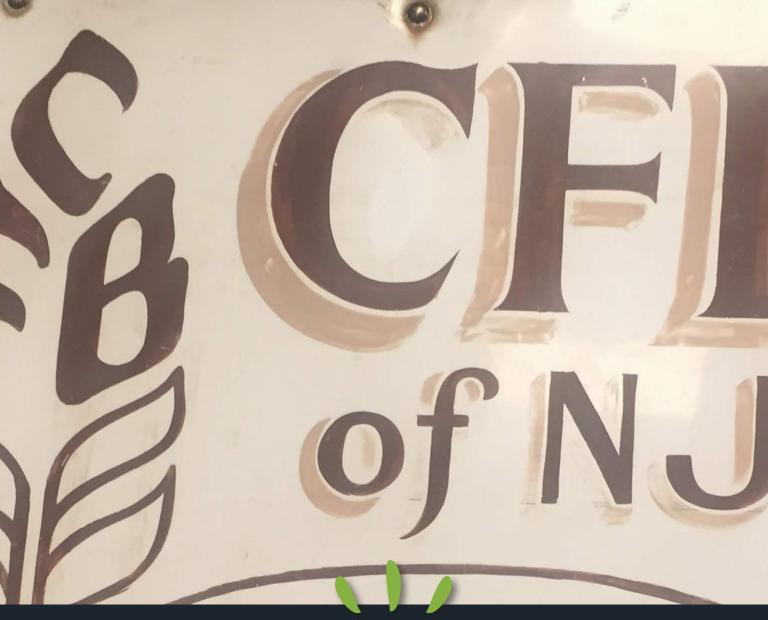
THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING FOOD, HELP, AND HOPE TO COUNTLESS NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

KATHLEEN DICHIARA

Kathleen's lifetime of service began in the early

food collection at her church in Summit. In 1975,

1970s, when she organized the Loaves and Fishes





CFBNJ.ORG

31 EVANS TERMINAL HILLSIDE, NJ 07205 908-355-3663

6735 BLACK HORSE PIKE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, NJ 08234 609-383-8843







