



On behalf of the Center for Food Action (CFA), I would like to thank the Board of Trustees of the RWJ Barnabas Health for the generous grant of \$70,000 to support stabilizing capacity and bolstering distribution systems to handle increased demand at this time, in line with our mission of preventing hunger and homelessness.

Our September 2025 data demonstrate the increasing demand for food assistance in our community. In September alone, CFA served 4,336 households, representing 11,750 individuals (8,238 adults and 3,512 children). This reflects a 12.86% increase in households and an 11.82% increase in people served compared to August 2025.

In 2025, we experienced significant fluctuations in demand, with notable increases in April (6% increase in households), July (16% increase in households), and most recently, September. These surges align with the economic pressures facing our community and underscore the critical need for sustained support as we prepare for anticipated federal program changes.

The Foundation's funding will be used exclusively to support CFA's direct-service programs, which are critical as we prepare for anticipated changes in SNAP benefits and the recent reductions in USDA funding for food banks and food assistance programs. These policy shifts are expected to significantly increase demand for emergency food services across northern New Jersey, affecting working families, seniors on fixed incomes, unemployed and underemployed individuals, and those already struggling with food insecurity. Our direct-service programs are positioned to fill this widening gap in the food safety net.

CFA requests the full \$70,000 commitment to support the following critical activities:

- Emergency Food Distribution (insert amount)
  - Purchase and distribution of nutritious, culturally appropriate food items
  - Expanded food pantry operations to accommodate increased client volume
  - Mobile food distribution to reach homebound and transportation-limited individuals
- Staffing and volunteer support (insert amount)
  - Extended hours for existing staff to meet increased demand
  - Volunteer coordinator support to recruit and manage additional volunteers
  - Bilingual outreach workers to serve diverse communities
- Client Services and Navigation (insert amount)
  - SNAP application assistance
  - Case management and referrals to wraparound services
  - Nutrition education and recipe resources

The verbal commitment of \$70,000 from RWJBarnabas Health represents a vital investment in our community's food security and resilience during these unprecedented times of uncertainty. We are confident that CFA's work aligns with the mission of RWJBarnabas Health. We look forward to the opportunity to work together to make a meaningful difference in the lives of New Jersey residents.

192 West Demarest Avenue | Englewood, NJ 07631 | 201-569-1804 | [www.cfanj.org](http://www.cfanj.org)  
Englewood | Hackensack | Mahwah | Saddle Brook | Bergen Community College



Thank you for your time and consideration. If you require additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 201.569.1804 x 24 or [ndavis@cfanj.org](mailto:ndavis@cfanj.org).

Sincerely,

*Nicole A. Davis*

Nicole A. Davis  
Executive Director  
Center for Food Action



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