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THE SALVATION ARMY NEWARK AREA SERVICES

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December 11th 2025

Subject: Testimonial in Support of State-Appropriated Funding for RWJBarnabas Health

It is my pleasure to express strong support for the renewal of State-appropriated funds to RWJBarnabas Health in the FY 2027 New Jersey State Budget on behalf of The Salvation Army. Our organization is dedicated to meeting basic human needs in underserved communities, and our mission aligns closely with RWJBH's commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of residents throughout New Jersey, particularly in Greater Newark.

RWJBH's leadership in addressing social determinants of health has been instrumental in strengthening our programs. Their partnership has enabled the deployment of Community Health Workers and Registered Dietitians directly into neighborhoods, creating a transformative model of care. These professionals provide personalized support, nutrition education, and culturally relevant resources that empower individuals and families to make healthier decisions. Through this collaboration, we have expanded our reach in high-need communities and significantly increased the impact of our services.

This initiative extends far beyond traditional healthcare. It addresses food insecurity, transportation challenges, and access to nutritious foods, offering a comprehensive solution that meets individuals where they are. As a result, families are healthier, communities are stronger, and systemic barriers to care are being dismantled. Over the past year, this partnership has allowed us to support numerous families, expand services in neighborhoods such as the South and East Wards of Newark and in Irvington, and enhance our capacity to deliver holistic wellness education and outreach.

Our partnership with RWJBH has been consistent, impactful, and rooted in a shared commitment to addressing social determinants of health. Their community infrastructure and expertise make them uniquely positioned to support organizations like ours. Without State-appropriated funding, these essential programs would not exist. A reduction or loss of funding would significantly limit our ability to reach vulnerable households, reduce access to registered dietitians and community health workers, and hinder progress toward closing persistent equity gaps.

Continued State investment in RWJBH's community partnerships is essential to sustaining programs that directly benefit residents across New Jersey. We express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for our partnership with RWJBarnabas Health and their commitment to building and sustaining healthier communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nemin Jaya".

Nemin Jaya
Executive Director | Administrator
The Salvation Army Newark Area Services