



St. Brigid's Food Pantry & Kitchen

300 Broadway, Long Branch, NJ 07740

admin@stbrigidspantry.org

732-222-1411

December 11, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Nancy Francese and I am the Executive Director at St. Brigid's Pantry & Kitchen. I strongly support renewal of State Appropriations to RWJBH for FY 2027. We are one of the largest food pantries in Monmouth County and are located in the heart of Long Branch, one mile from the current Monmouth Medical Center. The mission at St. Brigid's is to feed the hungry and the poor. We currently feed 3000 adults and children each month and the numbers continue to grow. I have been part of St. Brigid's for ten years.

The support from RWJBH through the State-appropriated funds allows our organization to invest directly in community-based initiatives and partnerships that advance health - medical, nutritional, behavioral and emotional.

The mission and goals of St. Brigid's aligns 100% with the goals of RWJBH/Monmouth Medical Center which is to care for those in need. Monmouth Medical has been an important source of support for St. Brigid's providing community services in the way of fresh produce during the winter months as well as providing a nutritionist to come to St. Brigid's twice a month to help our clients understand the nutritional value of the food they are receiving and how to prepare certain items. This service provided by MMC has been and will continue to be extremely important to help our clients prepare healthy meals for their families. In the spring of 2026, MMC will be building a community garden for the clients of St. Brigid's on our property. As stated earlier St. Brigid's is feeding 3000 adults and children each month. Our relationship with Monmouth Medical is ongoing and because we have visions for future collaboration, to lose funding would be devastating to the health and wellness of the clients of St. Brigid's. To lose programs, to lose the ability to fulfill future visions would have a direct negative impact on the people we serve.

Your time and consideration is most appreciated. I sincerely hope that continued state investment in RWJBH's community partnerships will continue to sustain programs that directly benefit the most vulnerable residents in communities across New Jersey and in Long Branch specifically. I can be reached at 732-618-8883 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy Francese

Executive Director, St. Brigid's Pantry & Kitchen