



## **MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **A Pay-it-forward Proposal Pays-off for MCFOODS**

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY** – The Middlesex County Food Organization and Outreach Distribution Services (MCFOODS) was recently on the receiving end of a pay-it-forward proposal, after one local business and one area blood bank made a significant donation to the County’s food bank.

Representatives from The Blood Center of New Jersey and ACME in Milltown presented a \$300 check to MCFOODS Project Manager Jennifer Apostol at the grocery store’s 300 Ryder Lane location on April 27.

This donation was the ripple effect of a successful one-day blood drive hosted by the Milltown market.

Representatives from ACME had forged an earlier agreement that if the drive saw 30-or-more blood donations on that designated day, then the Blood Center would donate \$300 to the charity of their choice.

“We’re constantly looking for ways to give back to the community and we have a great relationship with MCFOODS,” said Store Director Matt Merville. “We have people out there that aren’t getting enough to eat – and some of those people are children. So every food bank is an amazing organization in my opinion.”

Additionally, ACME employees promoted a food drive for most of February and have since decided to continue collections for MCFOODS on an ongoing basis at the store. The result of that winter drive was 250 pounds of food for Middlesex County’s neediest families and individuals.

ACME representatives said they also plan to follow-up with a similar blood drive in the fall.

Operated by the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, MCFOODS provides an average of 9 tons or 18,000 pounds of food to 42 organizations during its weekly distributions. These distributions are based out of the MCFOODS New Brunswick warehouse, which is provided by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, in addition to transportation and other back-up services. The food is then further circulated to more than 100 area pantries, soup kitchens and other emergency food providers.

“We are so grateful for the continued support of ACME,” Apostol said. “In general, they’ve opened their doors to any number of worthy organizations and causes in the community, including our own. It’s the many small sentiments like this that make a big impact on our organization.”

For more information on the MCFOODS program, log onto [www.mciauth.com](http://www.mciauth.com) or contact Apostol at 609-409-5033 or by e-mailing [ja@mciauth.com](mailto:ja@mciauth.com).

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