

## Christ the King food pantry report June 3, 2020

Where would we be without the kindness of others? There are so many people and organizations to thank this week.

Michael Attardi, an NFL alumni (as well as LBHS alumni!) offered to have the men of his NFL alumni group hold a food drive to benefit Christ the King food pantry and St Luke's food pantry. The administration of the Ocean Place Resort agreed to hold the event in their parking lot. The men (alumni of various pro-football teams) were present to sign autographs, take pictures and chit chat with public who came to donate. John Perri, owner of *Lawns of Perfection Landscaping* in Long Branch, allowed the food drive to use his truck to store the food, and he delivered it to both food pantries at the end of the day. Thank you Michael- and thank you John.

The Long Branch School Employees Association provided the pantry with a sizeable grant. The grant enabled us to purchase laundry detergent pods to be given out with the bags next week. Thank you to the LBSEA and to Mary Ann McKenzie and Par Fahr who repackaged pods for distribution. Laundry Pod safety tips will be provided by RWJ/SBH.

Jean McKinney and Sylvia Jacobs from Monmouth Medical Center (RWJ/BH) provided enough masks (with instructions, in plastic bag) for each bag distributed this week. They also have provided multi lingual COVID19 precaution sheets. RWJ/BH donated 2 wall-mounted hand sanitizer dispensers with refills for use at the pantry. They also gave washable masks for pantry workers.

The Youth Group from St Anselm's in Wayside collected and organized 111 hygiene kits with toilet paper, soap, tooth brush and toothpaste. Thank you to the young people and their families.

The Philly Pretzel Factory in Eatontown brought over 250 hot pretzels today. Who doesn't love a hot Philly pretzel!

Again this week, we received bread from Joe Leone's, thanks to Mr. Fuentes, and Common Market produce boxes thanks to Michelle Dee at Jersey Cares.

Our guardian angels are busy. Many food donations and monetary donations came to us.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the dedicated workers: Chris Dalton, Wayne Embry, Ken Orechio, Tom De Clemente, Rick Harrison, Mary Ann McKenzie, Mike Beson, and Phil Hinck who prepared the bags for the 230 families who came today. During the month of May we helped 939 families with food!

Next week we will be restocked, and ready to serve all in need.