



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MAY 28, 2020**

**PASSAIC COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS ANNOUNCE  
EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENTS**

*New Jersey First Lady Tammy Murphy to participate in first event at Lambert Castle in Paterson*

**(Paterson, New Jersey)** – Today, the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders is announcing emergency food distribution events that are going to take place across Passaic County. All Passaic County families are eligible to receive one box with non-perishable food items, upon showing proof of residency at specified dates and locations to be announced in the coming week.

The first emergency food distribution event is taking place on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:30 PM at the Lambert Castle, 3 Valley Road, Paterson, New Jersey. The Board is distributing up to five hundred (500) boxes of food on a first come, first served basis. Residents are to stay in their vehicles, with windows shut, and will be instructed to open their trunks to receive a box of food.

“Right now, Passaic County families are struggling with the devastating economic impact of the COVID-19 global pandemic,” stated Passaic County Freeholder Director Sandi Lazzara. “The Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders is taking proactive steps to ensure that every family in Passaic County has food security, and no one is going hungry. These emergency food distribution events will take place on a daily basis throughout the next two months, to ensure residents in every municipality in Passaic County are able to participate. I want to thank First Lady Tammy Murphy for joining at the first event, to help raise awareness for this important new resource being offered to Passaic County families.”

Last month, the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders secured over \$87 million dollars in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”) funding from the federal government to respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency in Passaic County. A portion of that funding is being used for these emergency food distribution events to ensure compliance with public health precautions, and ensure seniors and other vulnerable populations have access to food security.

“Every day we are hearing stories about struggling families in Passaic County who do not have access to food because of the Public Health Emergency,” stated Passaic County Freeholder Bruce James. “This Board is taking proactive steps to ensure food security for every Passaic County family as we weather the devastating economic impacts of the Public Health Emergency.”

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