

PRESS RELEASE
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Penns Grove Fresh Food Drive Collects 150 Pounds of Food

Deborah Oglesby, nutrition education and food stamp enrollment coordinator for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Camden, says she is disturbed by the correlation between poverty and obesity.

“My goal is to help people understand that even though they think they might not have the means, they can still eat healthy foods within their budget,” Oglesby said.

A native of Salem County, she says she has a vested interest in the community.

“Salem County is the second poorest county in New Jersey. But just because we’re poor, it doesn’t mean we have to eat unhealthy foods,” she said.

On Wednesday, March 11, she organized a fresh food drive in association with the Salem Health and Wellness Foundation. She and staff from Catholic Charities’ two Salem County locations set up a table and sign in front of Incollingo’s Supermarket in Penns Grove. Shoppers on their way into the market were invited to purchase a few extra fresh foods to donate on their way out.

The drive collected over 150 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables, and patrons also donated canned vegetables and fruit.

“We were touched by the outpouring of love and kindness from the market’s patrons – from helping to set up the banner, to graciously donating foods,” Oglesby said.

“We are so grateful to the owner of Incollingo’s, Ed Incollingo. He was great to work with and so hospitable,” she added.

The food was given to St. John’s Outreach Ministry in Carneys Point, New Jersey. Their food pantry, under the leadership of Pastor Jeffrey Ledbetter, serves the Penns Grove and Carneys Point communities Mondays through Thursdays and is also available for emergent needs.

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