

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lower Bergen County (formerly Lodi & Hackensack) 50 Brookside Avenue First Floor Lodi, NJ 07644 973-473-7410

PRESS RELEASE

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lower Bergen County wins \$25,000 State Farm Grant

The local community rose to the occasion to help the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lower Bergen County, serving Lodi and Hackensack, to win a \$25,000 State Farm Neighborhood Assist grant. State Farm awards 40 Neighborhood Assists grants for \$25,000 each, to support non-profit organizations who are helping to improve their communities, throughout the entire country.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lower Bergen County submitted the grant in July, to fund **Feeding More Than Their Minds**, their youth food program, which provides free healthy meals to kids at the Clubs daily and provided free grab & go meals to our communities' kids daily throughout the summer. **Feeding More Than Their Minds** was selected by the State Farm Review Committee as one of the top 200 finalists from the 2,000 grant applications they accepted, and in October, those 200 finalists were voted on by the public in an online contest, where **Feeding More Than Their Minds** was voted into the top 40 to win a grant!

Last week, Boys & Girls Clubs of Lower Bergen County's CEO, Joseph Licata, was joined at the Boys & Girls Club of Hackensack by Congressman Josh Gottheimer, Bergen County Sheriff Anthony Cureton, County Commissioner Tracy S. Zur, County Commissioner Mary J. Amoroso, County Commissioner Ramon M. Hache, Sr., County Commissioner Germaine M. Ortiz, Mayor of Hackensack, John P. Labrosse, and members of our Board of Directors, Mike Williams, President, Annekee Brahver-Keely, and Maritza Aleman, all of whom braved the cold weather to help accept this generous donation.

For over 71 years the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lower Bergen County has helped provide great futures to the underserved children and teens in Southern Bergen County, by providing a safe place for them to go outside of school hours, where they participate in life enhancing programs, receive academic support, learn life skills, have a healthy meal, and so much more. Grants like the State Farm Neighborhood Assist enable them to do so.

If you wish to learn more about programs or ways you can make an impact, please contact Melissa McKinney at Melissa.mckinney@bgcoflodi.org.