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Food Bank of South Jersey to Commemorate 30th Anniversary at Annual Partner Meeting

**Representatives from 13 Founding Agencies
That Started with FBSJ in 1985 to Receive Special Recognition**

Pennsauken, NJ (PR.com) – May 26, 2015 – The Food Bank of South Jersey (FBSJ), the area's largest emergency food provider, will commemorate its 30th anniversary at its 2015 Annual Partner Meeting, to be held May 29 for agencies from its distribution network and for stakeholders who support and enable FBSJ's mission.

Representatives from more than 200 pantries and food-assistance providers affiliated with FBSJ have been invited to attend. In a special presentation, FBSJ CEO Val Traore will acknowledge 13 original agency partners who have been connected with FBSJ since its first year of operation in 1985. Traore will also deliver a keynote address that recaps 2014 achievements and challenges, and outlines the non-profit organization's goals for scaling its reach.

In recognition of FBSJ's historic role as a hunger-relief organization, US Congressman Donald Norcross (District 1, NJ) has issued a proclamation to be read at the outset of the meeting, commending FBSJ for its outstanding service and dedication to the communities it serves. NJ State Senator James Beach (District 6) will attend the meeting and likewise deliver a proclamation lauding FBSJ's 30th anniversary and achievements.

In signature award presentations that are part of every annual partner meeting, FBSJ will honor the top individual, corporate, and not-for-profit supporters who volunteer their time and labor, coordinate food drives, and contribute financially to help FBSJ execute its organizational programs and services.

In addition, four new board members – Marianne Aleardi, Pam Boyd, Joseph Ford, and Kate Latimer – will be sworn in. Aleardi is Editor/Publisher of *South Jersey Magazine*; Boyd is Co-Founder and President of Thomas/Boyd Communications (Moorestown); Ford is Chief Operating Officer for American Asphalt Company (West Collingswood Heights); Latimer is Vice President of Human Resources for The Barclay Group.

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The Food Bank of South Jersey exists to provide an immediate solution to the urgent problem of hunger by providing food to needy people, teaching them to eat nutritiously, and helping them to find sustainable ways to improve their lives.

“Marking our 30th anniversary with so many of our agency partners, including those who have been with us since day one, makes this milestone all the more special,” stated FBSJ CEO Val Traore. “We’re looking forward to strengthening both the old and the new relationships and assuring that together we do everything possible to alleviate hunger throughout South Jersey.”

About the Food Bank of South Jersey

A member of Feeding America, our nation’s largest hunger-relief organization, The Food Bank of South Jersey (FBSJ) is the leader in providing safe and nutritional food to people in need throughout South Jersey. FBSJ distributes food, provides nutrition education and cooking courses, and helps food insecure families and seniors find sustainable ways to improve their lives. In 2014, FBSJ provided 10,400,000 pounds of food to nearly 200,000 South Jersey residents. To learn more visit www.foodbanksj.org.