



**From:** NJLM - Municipal Clerks [mailto:njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2009 4:33 PM  
**To:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Subject:** Municipal Clerks from NJLM

## LEAGUE ALERT

Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.

January 3, 2009

**Re: Helping Hand in Time of Need**

Dear Mayor:

Today, Governor Corzine participated in a delivery of hundreds of pounds of donated food to a food bank in Hillsdale, an incredible display of how scores of New Jersey residents have recognized the plight of thousands of Garden State families and have offered their support for the less fortunate among us. As such, I believe all of us should step forward and offer support to our neighbors during these trying economic times.

In December, Governor Corzine took an important step in this direction when he signed legislation directing \$22.5 million for food, energy, and legal aid assistance for individuals and families struggling to make ends meet in the wake of the national recession – including \$3 million for the state’s Hunger Initiative and Food Assistance Program. And just days ago, the state Department of Agriculture released more than \$1.8 million to the state’s six emergency feeding operations through the State Food Purchase Program. But as a result of the sagging economy, an increasing number of families are turning to food pantries, resulting in an increased demand of up to 40 percent in some areas. More is needed to help state feeding operations keep up with demand.

I would like to call on you, as an elected leader, to promote similar efforts in your community. Time and time again, New Jerseyans have proven their willingness to extend a helping hand in times of need. That time is now.

By sponsoring or promoting food drives, coat donations, or efforts focused on emergency heating assistance, you can make the world of difference for countless families in your community. Although all of us are making adjustments during the current national recession, we owe it to our neighbors to assist the less fortunate during their time of need.

Thank you and I look forward to forging a statewide partnership in this important effort.

Very truly yours,

Timothy McDonough

NJLM President

Mayor, Hope Township