

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

PARIS P. ELIADES

Lawyers Feeding New Jersey Fundraising Effort to Fight Crisis of Hunger



Attorneys have a long and proud history of helping the less fortunate in our society. We do it because it is personally and professionally rewarding. Our bar association is founded on these great principles.

Day in and day out our volunteers tackle any number of legal issues, small and large, solely for the betterment of society as a whole.

In keeping with that tradition I am proud to announce that the New Jersey State Bar Association is kicking off a two-month effort to raise money to fight hunger. We are facing a real crisis in this state. In New Jersey, 1.2 million people are confronting hunger. That means 14 percent of our population has limited access to food. Even worse, among those numbers are 400,000 children; kids, like yours and mine, who don't always know where or when they will have their next meal. And the problem is only getting worse, as many people cannot find jobs, are earning wages insufficient to meet their family's basic needs or are simply suffering due to cuts in federal food subsidy programs.

This is heartbreaking and unacceptable. No one should be left hungry.

Through a campaign we have titled Lawyers Feeding New Jersey, I call upon our 18,000 members, their friends, colleagues and coworkers to join us in this effort. We challenge everyone in the legal community to do something about this emergency and give back to your communities. Our goal is to donate as many meals as possible to those who find themselves in less-fortunate circumstances.



All donations are tax-deductible and the proceeds will benefit the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, which is the state's leading organization to address hunger. It deals directly with food banks and affiliates in each of the state's 21 counties.

The way it works is simple.

Anyone can donate.

To make it fun we have created a friendly competition. Lawyers, law firms, judges, court staff, law office professionals, bar associations and anyone else can form a fundraising team to take part in this competition to fight hunger. For every \$1 that is donated, Community Food Bank of New Jersey is able to provide five meals to those in need.

Let's work together to help end hunger in New Jersey.

To learn more and get started, visit njsba.com. ☺