

# Thank GOODNESS

### 384

Thanksgiving baskets distributed

### 179

Meals served on Thanksgiving Tuesday

### 113

Hot meals delivered Thanksgiving day



- Executive Director**  
Leslie Koppel
- Board President**  
Nancy Walker Laudenberger
- Board Vice President**  
Elizabeth Morley, MSW
- Board Secretary**  
Angie Casciano
- Board Members**  
Jenna Drake, MSW  
Carlos Fernandez, Ph.D  
Diane Hawk  
Paula Roncancio  
Al Rosenberg

## 2017 grants

- Allen & Stults Co., Inc.
- Ashley Furniture HomeStore
- B&W Auto Repair
- Bank of Princeton
- Berkshire Bank Foundation
- Borough of Hightstown
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.
- Church & Dwight Co. EGF
- County of Mercer
- Cranbury Design Center
- Dewi Sudjono-Santoso MD
- East Windsor Municipal Drug Alliance Grant
- East Windsor Township
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- First Energy Foundation
- First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown
- Glenn and Eliza Miller Gift Fund
- ICNA/Institute of Islamic Studies
- Investors Foundation
- Island Remodeling
- Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Joseph Caruso D.D.S.
- Junior League of Greater Princeton
- Lillian Lea Foundation
- Living For A Cause
- Mary Owen Borden Foundation
- Monroe Township-Brookside School
- Nativity of Our Lord
- NJM Insurance Group
- Nordson Corporation
- Novo Nordisk Inc.
- Otto Family Advised Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation
- PNC Foundation
- Polyorganic Technologies Corp.
- Princeton Area Community Foundation-Women and Girls Fund
- Princeton Area Community Foundation-The Bunbury Fund
- Provident Bank Foundation
- PSEG Foundation
- Rowan University-Color Run
- Selective Insurance Group Foundation
- Solvay USA Inc.
- State Farm Insurance
- State of New Jersey-Office of Faith Based Initiatives
- The Benevity Community Impact Fund
- The Prenselaar Foundation
- Times Kiwanis Camp Fund
- United Way of Greater Mercer County-Strike Out Hunger
- Wakefern Food Corp.
- Wells Fargo Foundation



Family, friends, fun and FOOD, FOOD, FOOD...the perfect ingredients for the Thanksgiving Feast. Not everyone is lucky enough to have each one of these ingredients at their table though. That's why Rise staff, volunteers and donors worked hard behind the scenes to bring each ingredient to the Rise Community Dinner table, as well as, to other families in need.

**Thank You!** - 217 Church - AAA Club Alliance - Adents US Inc. - Advaxis Inc. - Allen & Stults Co., Inc. - Alltech Inc. - American Physical Therapy Association of NJ - Americana Diner - Ascensus - BESLER - CCL Label - CMB Karate - Conair Corp. - Comcast Concordia Chapter of Brendeis - Cox Pre School - Dance Expo - Diversified Rack and Shelving - Endo Pharmaceuticals Essendant - Farmers Against Hunger - Fidelity Investments - Firmenich - First Bank - First Commerce Bank - Glass Optical dba Pearle Vision - GN Rogers School - Haldeman Ford of East Windsor - Hightstown High School Red Cross Club Hightstown-East Windsor Lions Club - IVY Rehab Network - Jerry Noonan's Auto Center - Kids Cottage Learning Center Learning Experience West Windsor - Lightbridge Academy - McGraw Hill Education - Mercer County Turkey Trot - Millstone River School - Noonan's Auto Center, Inc. - Nordson Corporation - Olive Garden - Pack 53- Cub Scouts - Panera - Patidar Supermarket - Perez + Radosti Associates PC - Perry L. Drew School - Reliant Business Valuation - Ripen eCommerce Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset-Sports Physical Therapy Princeton - Roundview Capital/Charles Schwab Scott's Farmers Market - ShopRite of East Windsor - Solvay USA Inc. - St. David's Episcopal Church - Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association - Stop & Shop - Target #1345 - The Home Depot Distribution Center - The Learning Tree Nursery School The Peddie School - The Prenselaar Foundation - Trader Joe's - Tuttle Dental Care - Valvano Insurance Agency - Walter C. Black School - Wawa - Wheaton Pointe in East Windsor - Whole Foods ...and all the individual donors and volunteers who made this event possible.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

 **Mark Your Calendar**  
Don't sit on the sidelines...Get involved!

**Put Poverty To Bed Drive**  
Collecting PJ's, Tooth Brush & Tooth Paste  
January 2018

**MLK - Day of service**  
Volunteers Needed  
January 15, 2018

**Empty Bowls**  
Hunger Relief and The Arts  
March 24, 2018





# Holiday Party

By Joyce Reyhan

There's just something about Christmas that's magical... the smell of cookies wafting throughout the kitchen, the smell of balsam from the tree, the excitement of secrets and packages, the soft glow of candles and dazzling lights throughout the neighborhood, the sacred moments of prayer.



Every family has its own holiday traditions whether celebrating Chanukah, Kwanzaa, Ramadan or Diwali. These sustaining memories warm our hearts and remind us of some of the happiest times of our lives.

If you were looking for a party, Melvin H. Kreps School in East Windsor was the place to be Dec. 9 as Rise, hosted its holiday party and gift giveaway.



And it turned out to be the group's biggest party yet. The cafeteria at the school was transformed into a winter wonderland, and there were wall to wall people, all in festive moods ready to celebrate.

In the distance that familiar sound of Christmas music could be heard. The smell of cookies, cakes and coffee filled the air. There were presents around, and even a big comfy chair and Christmas tree, where "you know who" would later appear.



With so many volunteers and organizations, the Rise Holiday Gift Giveaway was a smashing success according to those involved.



**1003**  
**Children received a**  
**holiday gift**



## Rise Office Staff

**Leslie Koppel**  
Executive Director

**Kristen Cere**  
Director of Development

**Julia Badulescu**  
Food Pantry Coordinator

**Juan Cobos**  
Food Pantry Assist. Coordinator

**Maitiel Jimenez**  
Volunteer Coordinator

**Karla Gonzalez**  
Case Manager

**Nico Colon**  
Case Manager

**Jack Curry**  
Outreach Coordinator

**Daniella Parisi**  
College Readiness Program Coordinator

**Corrine Lanza**  
Youth Coordinator

**Jean Desravines**  
Bookkeeper



**DONATE**  
**VOLUNTEER**  
**SHOP**



**Generosity begins where**  
**we live, learn, shop, work, and play.**

