

**A Resolution Approving a Food Insecurity Program Spearheaded by Food for Hope
through the CARE Center of New Jersey and Recommending Support from the
New Jersey Governor's State Budget**

WHEREAS, the Township of West Orange recognizes the critical importance of addressing food insecurity and providing support to individuals and families in need within our community; and

WHEREAS, the CARE Center of New Jersey, a reputable nonprofit organization dedicated to combating hunger, has proposed Food for Hope, a food insecurity program in collaboration with Christ Church, aimed at providing nutritious meals and essential resources to residents facing food insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program aligns with the Township's commitment to promoting the health and well-being of all residents, fostering community resilience, and addressing systemic barriers to food access; and

WHEREAS, the partnership between Food for Hope and the CARE Center of New Jersey demonstrates a collaborative and multi-sectoral approach to addressing food insecurity, leveraging the expertise and resources of both organizations to maximize impact and effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, the Township recognizes the urgent need to support initiatives that address food insecurity, particularly in light of the ongoing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic repercussions;

WHEREAS, the Township Council acknowledges the importance of state-level support in addressing food insecurity and recommends that the New Jersey Governor's State budget include funding to support the expansion and scaling of Food for Hope's initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of West Orange that:

Section 1: The Township Council hereby approves the food insecurity program spearheaded by Food for Hope through the CARE Center of New Jersey.

Section 2: The Township Council recommends that the New Jersey Governor's State budget include \$5.3 million dollar funding to support the expansion and scaling of Food for Hope's initiatives, in recognition of the critical role played by nonprofit organizations in addressing food insecurity statewide.

Section 3: This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 12th day of March, 2024.

Susan McCartney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Karen J. Carnevale, RMC, Township Clerk

Bill Rutherford, Council President