

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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*******MEDIA ALERT*******

Christie Administration Announces Kessler Foundation Grant Awards to Improve Physical Access to Food Pantries

July 20th, 2012 - Ribbon Cutting Event of new Ramp at the Community Care Food & Clothing Pantry at Christ Care Unit Missionary Baptist Church

WHEN:

- Friday, July 20, 2012 11:00am

WHERE:

- 238 Sicklerville Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081 (Next to CCU Miss. Baptist Church)

WHAT:

- Department of Human Services' (DHS) Commissioner Jennifer Velez today announced that three regional nonprofit agencies were awarded competitive grants totaling \$15,000 to improve physical access to food pantries for New Jersey's residents with disabilities. Christ Care Unit Missionary Baptist Church is one of the awardees.
- Ribbon cutting and reception with local town officials, NJDHS Directors, Pastor and Founder of Christ Care Unit Missionary Baptist Church, visitors and guests.
- This event is free and open to the public. Existing and new food pantry clients are welcome to attend.
- The single use grants were made possible by the Kessler Foundation through DHS' Division of Disability Services (DDS). Each of the selected pantries operates within the New Jersey Emergency Food Provider System serving urban and rural areas in the northern, central and southern parts of the state.

ABOUT CCU:

Christ Care Unit Missionary Baptist Church is a non-profit organization which was started on June 14, 1981 by Dr. Robert F. Hargrove. On February 14, 1988, Dr. Hargrove marched his parishioners into their new church home on Sicklerville Road. The church has grown to record numbers. In 1997, Dr. Hargrove and the Church family outgrew that building, and then added another 10,000 sq. feet. The CDC was started and in 2003 a 96 apartment senior housing complex was built. In 2005 32.9 acres of land was donated to the church by Heritage Builders valued at 2.9 Million dollars – plans are underway to build 94 townhouse for low to moderate income families. Also, another senior housing complex with 95 units will also be erected on the property. In 2010 Christ Care purchased the Saint John Neumann Church and rectory on a parcel of seven acres. In 2011, The Community Care Food & Clothing Pantry was opened and now serves over 100 needy families month.

ABOUT DHS:

The New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS) is the largest state agency in New Jersey. It serves about 1.5 million New Jerseyans, or about one of every six state residents. DHS serves seniors, individuals and families with low incomes; people with mental illnesses, addictions, developmental disabilities, or late-onset disabilities; people who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind; parents needing child care services, child support and/or healthcare for their children; and families facing catastrophic medical expenses for their children. DHS and its eight divisions provide programs and services designed to give eligible individuals and families the help they need to find permanent solutions to a myriad of life challenges. This is made possible through the Department's work to maximize state and federal resources, establish community supports and promote accountability among staff. DHS also provides some assistance for the families served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF).

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