

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
IN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

**Fill a Glass with Hope®: Providing Fresh Milk to Families in Need**

Central Pennsylvania Food Bank's fresh milk program is helping solve one of the most difficult distribution challenges facing food banks across the nation. Periodic surveys showed that fresh dairy, particularly milk, was in high demand, but was not readily available to the children and adults who depend on food assistance. That changed in June 2014, when several dairy industry partners joined the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank (CPF) in launching a fresh milk program that now provides 5,000 quarts - 20,000 servings - of milk per week to families in need. According to Joe Arthur, CPF's executive director, the program surpassed a major milestone in 2015 when it reached more than 1 million servings of milk distributed.

Working with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board, CPF was licensed as a charitable milk subdealer, allowing it to purchase milk directly from processors at a discounted price. The status and discount made it financially possible for milk to be distributed to the food bank's member partners in 27 counties through a refrigerated truck fleet.

CPF raised more than \$175,000 to fully fund its share of costs to procure milk from local processors through the Fill a Glass with Hope fundraising campaign supported by PA Dairymen's Association, Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association and Pennsylvania Dairy Promotion Program. This funding made the fresh milk program financially stable and allowed it to help meet the dairy industry's goal of increasing the consumption of fluid milk while eliminating the "fresh milk gap" in its charitable network.

Building on the success of the CPF's model program, and a similar initiative at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, the fresh milk program is expanding to all eight of the Feeding Pennsylvania food banks in 2016. This first-ever statewide charitable milk program is expected to provide more than 2 million servings of milk this year.

**62,500
GALLONS**
OF MILK - ENOUGH FOR
1 MILLION SERVINGS - WERE
DISTRIBUTED IN CENTRAL
PENNSYLVANIA IN 2015.