

Goya donates 125,000 pounds of food to Catholic Charities

December 29, 2016



Goya Food Company has pledged 125,000 pounds worth of donations in food products, as well as \$10,000, to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, one of New Jersey's oldest and largest social service agencies that helps nearly 70,000 individuals and families each year. Dec. 28, 2016. Courtesy photo. Corey McDonald | The Jersey Journal

By Corey McDonald | The Jersey Journal

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The truck packed with 15,000 pounds of food products leaving Goya Foods' Jersey City headquarters was just a small part of a year-long commitment to feed the hungry in northern New Jersey.

Goya, the largest Hispanic-owned food company in the United States, has pledged to donate 125,000 pounds of food to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark -- which serves Essex, Hudson, Bergen and Union counties.

The company will send 10,000 pounds of food each month to the agency that helps nearly 70,000 individuals and families each year, according to CEO John Westervelt.

"(The donation) helps a lot because we run food pantries and without these types of donations we wouldn't be able to give to the less fortunate," Westervelt told The Jersey Journal. "We'd struggle without their help."

The company also pledged a one-time donation of \$10,000 to the archdiocese, which will go to Hope House in Jersey City and St. Rocco's Family Shelter in Newark, Westervelt said. The funds are expected to pay for the renovation of recreational rooms, and food and clothing for homeless families.

"We've made donations before (to Catholic Charities), but not this type of commitment," said Goya spokeswoman Karina Sosa, who noted that the company sends 30,000 pounds of products to Catholic Charities of New York every month.

Westervelt says it could turn into an annual donation.

http://www.nj.com/jjournal-news/index.ssf/2016/12/goya_donates_125000_pounds_of.html