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**CenDel Foundation donates \$29,000 to
The Culinary School at the Milford Branch**

Milford, Del. (September 26, 2014) – The Culinary School at the Food Bank of Delaware’s Milford branch was the recipient of a generous donation of \$29,000 from the Potter Trust grant from the CenDel Foundation.

The check was presented by Donna D. Stone, Delaware Community Foundation senior vice president for Central Delaware, to Patricia Beebe, Food Bank of Delaware CEO, Chef Instructor Tim Hunter and students from the fourth culinary class at the Milford Branch.

“When the Food Bank applied for funding for sending individuals, many of whom may have been incarcerated or on the edges of survival, to their Culinary School training program we thought this was a good fit,” said Kathleen Hawkins, president of CenDel’s Potter Trust grant committee. “The program gives individuals the opportunity to learn a “trade” and to be able to support themselves, getting them away from being homeless and the issues that tend to follow. We were happy to provide funding for five individuals from Kent County to attend The Culinary School training program,” she said.

The Potter Trust was established by Col. Benjamin Potter, through his will in 1843, when he evidenced great concern for children who were orphaned, for young men that they develop a trade to support themselves, and for families who were on the verge of being sent to the “poorhouse.”

The mission of The Culinary School is two-fold. First students are taught skills that are highly desirable to employers in the food industry and second, these newly-developed skills have the potential to lead to jobs in the industry that provide job security and economic sustainability.

Under the instruction of Food Bank of Delaware Chef Instructor Tim Hunter students spend 14 weeks developing their skills and passion for the culinary arts. From proper knife handling techniques to Serve Safe certification and completing a two-week internship, the training program prepares students for entry-level jobs in the food industry.

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The Food Bank of Delaware distributes millions of pounds of food and grocery products each year through its network of 550 hunger-relief program partners throughout the state and also provides thousands of meals a month for children through the After-School Feeding Program, the Summer Food Service Program and the Backpack Program. The Food Bank’s hunger-relief programs directly provide Delawareans at risk of going without meals each year. For more information about the Food Bank of Delaware, visit www.fbd.org or call (302) 292-1305.