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**Sussex County Council presents \$25,000 to Food Bank of Delaware  
Milford expansion project**

**Georgetown, Del.** (July 24, 2012) –The Sussex County Council presented the Food Bank of Delaware with \$25,000 this morning to help fund the expansion of the organization’s Milford Branch.

The expansion project, estimated to cost approximately \$2.8 million, will allow the organization to nearly double the size of the current 8,000-square-foot facility. The food bank will continue to raise the remaining \$1 million needed during construction.

"Hunger touches so many lives and it reaches all corners of our state, including right here in Sussex County," said Sussex County Council President Michael H. Vincent. "The County Council is proud to be a partner in the Delaware Food Bank's mission to eradicate hunger for every Delawarean, and we're pleased to be able to provide this critical funding for the Food Bank's capital campaign. In the end, it will mean backpacks for needy schoolchildren and food on the table for thousands of families right here."

"Residents of Sussex County are depending on us to meet the emergency food and job training needs of our community," said Food Bank of Delaware President and CEO Patricia Beebe. "We're thankful that Sussex County Council recognizes these critical needs and is taking action to address them. This generous gift puts us one step closer to making our expansion a reality."

Plans call for the construction of an industrial-sized kitchen to prepare hot meals for children in after-school enrichment programs and house The Culinary School at the Food Bank of Delaware, a volunteer room to eliminate the need for volunteers to work in warehouse aisles and additional space to increase hunger-relief programming for residents of Kent and Sussex Counties.

The Culinary School will serve under- and unemployed adults, individuals in prison re-entry programs and the disabled. The school will be a second site to the existing Culinary School at the organization’s Newark warehouse. As a result of the expansion, 45 additional students will receive culinary job training annually.

A groundbreaking is scheduled for September 17, and the organization anticipates completion within the year. As a result of the construction project, 75-100 new construction jobs will be created in Milford. To learn more about the expansion project or to make a donation, please contact Larry Haas, Development Director, at (302) 294-0185 or [lhaas@fbd.org](mailto:lhaas@fbd.org) or visit [www.fbdfeedingourfuture.org](http://www.fbdfeedingourfuture.org).

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*The Food Bank of Delaware distributes between seven and 10 million pounds of food and grocery products each year its network of 475 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 for 241,600 Delawareans at risk of going without meals each year. For more information about the Food Bank of Delaware, visit [www.fbd.org](http://www.fbd.org) or call (302) 292-1305.*