

SOUTH WARD CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE, A DIVISION OF THE BRICK EDUCATION NETWORK, AND KINGS FOOD MARKETS PARTNER TO PROVIDE THANKSGIVING MEALS TO 400 FAMILIES IN NEWARK'S SOUTH WARD

NEWARK, NJ, November 14, 2019 – South Ward Children's Alliance, a division of the BRICK Education Network (BEN), is joining forces with Kings Food Markets this holiday season to provide Thanksgiving meals and culinary education to families in the greater South Ward of Newark, NJ. Together, the organizations will distribute a classic Thanksgiving meal including turkey and traditional sides, such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, corn, cranberry sauce, and gravy.

BEN invests in children and their caregivers together to relentlessly knock down barriers to students' academic success. As New Jersey's first and only person of color led charter management organization, BEN knows that education allows children to achieve their dreams. It is our mission that every child will have the ability to overcome generational obstacles to unlock his or her limitless potential.

"Unfortunately, many of the families and students we serve across our schools, Achieve Clinton Hill and Marion P. Thomas Charter Schools, and through our social services support division, South Ward Children's Alliance, lack access to high - quality food options on a consistent basis. Through this amazing partnership with Kings Food Markets, we have the ability to provide our families the opportunity to gather around the table with family and friends and enjoy a healthy meal this holiday season," said Dominique Lee, Founder and CEO of BEN. "We hope this gesture will help to lessen the burdens our families face as they do their best to provide for their children in the midst of food insecurities during this festive time," Lee said.

Through *Kings' Act Against Hunger Campaign*, Kings hosted a 4-day Thanksgiving drive from November 1 - November 4, 2019, in each of their 23 New Jersey stores where Kings guests purchased a pre-assembled Thanksgiving sides bag; Kings donated a frozen turkey for each bag sold. Together with their guests, Kings will provide 400 families with a Thanksgiving meal.

"Kings has long been a supporter of food insecurity solutions, and when the opportunity came up to partner with BEN and the South Ward Children's Alliance to support an entire community this Thanksgiving, we jumped at it. We also hosted a pre-Thanksgiving cooking class for families, directly served by the South Ward Children's Alliance, to meet the families and to give them all the training they need to prepare a delicious holiday meal for their families," said Judith Spires, CEO of Kings Food Markets.

South Ward Families can retrieve a ticket for the Thanksgiving Meal Giveaway by contacting Leo Davis of the South Ward Children's Alliance at ldavis@brickeducation.org no later than noon on Friday, November 22, 2019.

Families may also retrieve a ticket at the South Ward Children's Alliance Second Annual "South Ward Gives!" Thanksgiving Dinner prepared by Celebrity Chef Ameer on Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm at NAN Newark Tech World located at 400 Hawthorne Avenue in Newark.

All tickets are on a first come, first served basis.

The Thanksgiving Meal Giveaway will be held on Monday, November 25, 2019 from 3:00pm – 7:00pm also at NAN Newark Tech World.

About BRICK Education Network

The BRICK Education Network is powered by visionary, diverse leaders committed to fighting the status quo. Our mission is to relentlessly knock down all barriers to students' academic success. It's our vision that each and every child will have an unimpeded path to unlocking his or her limitless potential. To learn more about our work, visit www.bricknewark.org.

Media inquiries and for more information, contact Tish Johnson of the Brick Education Network at tjohnson@brickeducation.org or 862.236.1340.

About Kings Food Market

From the purest fish in the world to grass-fed local beef, extraordinary produce, fresh baked goods, artisan gourmet products, and a vibrant and growing Private Label program, Kings is continuing an 80-year legacy of providing some of the most demanding consumers in America the finest food available. Kings' 25 stores are found in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. Follow Kings on Facebook & Instagram @kingsfoodmarket and for recipes and inspiration please visit www.kingsfoodmarkets.com.