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New Jersey Education Officials Help Food Bank During Christie Administration's Season of Service

For Immediate Release

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Ewing, NJ - As part of the Christie Administration's 2014 Season of Service program, Acting Education Commissioner David C. Hespe and department staff helped to sort food donations today at Mercer Street Friends Food Bank in Ewing. The non-profit organization is the largest provider of donated and government-sourced food for charitable providers in the central New Jersey area. It supplies a network of over 60 food pantries, shelters, soup kitchens and meal sites.

Hespe and DOE staff sorted food for distribution to the community. The food bank secures food and groceries through partnerships and relationships with manufacturers, processors, brokers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, farmers and growers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, community food drives and individual donations. Each year it provides 2.5 million pounds of food to families in the Mercer County area.

Below, Acting Commissioner Hespe sorts cans at the food bank. Accompanying Acting Commissioner Hespe were Susan Martz, Assistant Commissioner of Student Services and Career Readiness; David Joye, Director of Administration and Budget; William Haldeman, Assistant Commissioner of Executive Services/Chief of Staff; Evo Popoff, Chief Innovation Officer; James Palmer, Executive Director of Grants and Project Management; and Ronald "Jamar" Champion, Building Services Coordinator.

