

For Immediate Release
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First Hope Bank Sponsors Collections to Support Our Community

Hope, NJ 2016 – First Hope Bank's foundation was built not only on being part of the community, but by giving back to it. Developing from one branch in the town of Hope to six branches, the bank is still actively growing and increasing the communities served throughout New Jersey. First Hope Bank, along with area non-profit organizations have been sponsoring campaigns to benefit those in need this holiday season.

Stuff the Bus: First Hope Bank participated in their annual Stuff the Bus event to collect non perishable food and monetary contributions for local food pantries on November 18th at their Andover Branch. First Hope works closely with the Sussex County Division of Social Services and iHeart Media to collect donations for local families. 2016 has been a record breaking year!

This year, over \$10,000 in monetary contributions have been collected (up from \$6,300 last year), 247 turkeys (up from 213) and an outstanding 34,320 pounds of food which is up from 28,000 pounds last year. A huge thank you to the community and partners in making this possible. Another very successful year!

Coat Drive: First Hope Bank has partnered with the United Way of Northern New Jersey to collect new and slightly used coats until the beginning of December through the Gift of Warmth coat drive. Local agencies are asked if they know of families in need and are provided with order forms asking for specific sizes of those individuals. The drive also accepts scarves, hats, sweaters and monetary donations. The campaign's efforts are to provide winter coats for all ages and sizes.

Toy Drive: First Hope Bank has partnered with Project Self Sufficiency in their annual Season of Hope to collect Toys this holiday season. Collections can be made at all six of First Hope Bank's locations. New, unwrapped gifts for infants up to and including preteens will be accepted until December 19th.

All six First Hope Bank locations, including Hope, Blirstown, Hackettstown, Great Meadows, Andover and Sparta, are involved in these collection efforts. Stop by today!

We would also like to take the time to thank you for your continued support of First Hope Bank. Have a very happy and healthy holiday season!

About First Hope - *First Hope Bank, established in 1911, is a full-service financial institution with locations in Andover, Blirstown, Great Meadows, Hackettstown, Hope and Sparta. Known for its customer service, financial strength and stability, First Hope Bank also offers the sophisticated range of products and services found in large financial institutions including a comprehensive Wealth Management division. First Hope Bank's associates strive every day to fulfill the Bank's motto, "Turning Hope into Reality." Visit First Hope Bank's Web Site at firsthope.com, or email the Bank at info@firsthope.com.*