

Manchester Township

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Kenneth T. Palmer Mayor

PRESS RELEASE - April 17, 2020 FROM THE DESK OF MANCHESTER MAYOR KENNETH T. PALMER

HELPING HAND FOOD SHOPPING SERVICES for MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP SENIORS

Manchester Township Mayor Kenneth T. Palmer and the Township Council are pleased to announce that a helping hand will be provided for Manchester Township seniors-in-need with their food shopping needs through a partnership of state, county, municipal and community organizations, effective on April 20, 2020.

Our seniors are among the most vulnerable to the Covid-19 virus. Many of our seniors are fearful of shopping at local supermarkets as this pandemic continues. Some food stores have set aside early shopping hours for our senior residents, but more assistance is needed. To help our most atrisk seniors obtain the food needed without having to leave their homes, Ocean County Senior Services has teamed up with several municipal senior centers and other agencies to help with this program.

The new program will help seniors-in-need, age 60 and older. Many of our seniors can rely on family and neighbors to help, but some do not have that option. This program will allow at-risk seniors to stay home to protect their health and keep them safe during this pandemic, while still purchasing needed food items.

Ocean County Senior Services in partnership with Jersey Cares; NJ Department of Human Services/Division on Aging; Toms River Senior Center; Brick Township Senior Center; Caregiver Volunteers of Central Jersey; Jackson Senior Center; Berkeley Senior Outreach, Manchester Township Senior Outreach, and St. Francis Senior Center on Long Beach Island will participate in providing food shopping services through this program.

Manchester Township's Office of Senior Services will provide this Outreach service to those residents who are most in need of assistance. They can be contacted at **732-849-8305.**Outreach staff will take grocery list requests via telephone and forward the requests to the Jersey Cares portal. For more information, contact Manchester Senior Services.