

Local, state officials tour Somerset County United Way's Gifts of the Season warehouse

by [Somerset Reporter](#)

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COURTESY SOMERSET COUNTY UNITED WAY

Somerset County United Way hosts their "Gifts of the Season" VIP Tour celebrating their 19 years of partnership with the Food Bank Network of Somerset County and the Somerset County Board of Social Services. From left to right, Philip A. Brown III, chief executive officer of Somerset County United Way; Lisa Galonardo, Somerset County United Way; Vinnie Petti, Bound Brook councilman; William M. Rodgers III, Somerset County United Way Board Chair; Marie Scannell, executive director of the Food Bank Network of Somerset County; Kevin Sluka, Somerville; Rowena Madden, director of the Governor's Office of Volunteerism; **Steve Malve, HelpLightNJ volunteer; Bernie Erickson, HelpLightNJ advisor;** Kurt R. Padavano, chief operating officer of Advance Realty; John Van Decker, property manager of Advance Realty; and Joe Scarbaccim Somerset County United Way Board, attend the "Gifts of the Season" VIP tour at the Advance Realty donated warehouse space where gifts are sorted and organized for distribution by volunteers.

BOUND BROOK -- Key leaders in the community and state government took part in a Gifts of the Season open house and VIP tour celebrating the 19th annual Gifts of the Season Program at Middlebrook Crossings Industrial Park.

The Somerset County United Way is reaching out to the community to increase awareness about their Gifts of the Season Program. The event included a tour of the Gifts of the Season program at the warehouse in Bound Brook, a recognition program and an overview of the volunteer involvement.

In addition, Gifts of the Season partners -- Food Bank Network of Somerset County and the Somerset County Board of Social Services -- were recognized along with the Advance Realty Group for their generous support in providing space for the program to operate.

Along with approximately 30 other non-profit organizations, the Gifts of the Season Program, coordinated by the Somerset County United Way, helps disadvantaged families, children, disabled adults and seniors in Somerset County by providing gifts, warm coats, winter apparel, and food - making the holiday season better for everyone.

For more information, visit www.scuw.org.