News from the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Farmers Market Vouchers Available to Eligible Residents
Vouching for the Benefits of Nutritious Food

SOMERVILLE – Somerset County Freeholder Director Brian D. Levine invites eligible applicants to apply for vouchers that can be used at participating farmers markets in Somerset County. Residents age 60 and above who are interested, can apply for vouchers worth \$25, beginning Monday, July 1, at the Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services, located at 27 Warren St., in Conference Room 1, between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vouchers worth \$25 will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis and can be used throughout Somerset County at participating farmers markets until Nov. 29.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must be 60 years of age or above, reside in Somerset County; and show proof of age and residency with a driver's license or other documentation. Also, applicants must show proof of **all** income, including a current income tax return, a W-2 form, recent pay stub, a social security statement award letter, and proof of pension. Bank statements are **NOT** considered acceptable for proof of income. Income guidelines require that an individual's income must not exceed \$23,107, and a married couple's income cannot exceed \$31,284.

To obtain a social security award letter contact the Social Security Office at 1-800-772-1213, or go to the office located at 245 US-22 Suite 207, Bridgewater. Be prepared for some waiting time that may be necessary. If other assistance is needed, please contact the Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services toll-free at 1-888-747-1122 or 908-704-6346.

For Applicants Unable to Apply In-Person

For applicants who cannot apply in-person, they may send a representative who must be at least 16 years old, have personal identification and the applicant's identification documentation that is listed above. The representative must provide a proxy statement or letter that is signed and dated by the applicant stating that the proxy is authorized to pick up the vouchers. To obtain a proxy form, contact the Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services at 1-888-747-1122 or 908-704-6346.

To learn about other voucher distribution locations or for more information, contact the Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services toll-free at 1-888-747-1122, or 908-704-6346.

Participating farm stands are Ripple Hill Farms, Basking Ridge; Bedminster Township Farmers Market, Bedminster; Bernardsville Farmers Market, Bernardsville; Bound Brook Farmers Market, Bound Brook; Duke Farms Market to Farm Table, Hillsborough; Hillsborough Farm County Market, Hillsborough; Norz-Hill Farm & Market, Hillsborough; Manville Farmer's Market, Manville; Montgomery Farmers Market, Skillman; John H. Drake Farm, Skillman; North Plainfield Farmers Market, North Plainfield; Franklin Farmers Market, Somerset.

To stay up to date with Somerset County events and information, sign up for <u>free email alerts</u> at <u>www.co.somerset.nj.us/subscribe</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.