



MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

MONROE LEGAL REPORTER

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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM: MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
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Stroudsburg Foundation Steps in for Family Emergency Shelter

Stroudsburg: Nearly six months without state funding threatened East Stroudsburg Salvation Army family emergency shelter operations until Monroe County Bar Foundation [MCBF] stepped in January 7 with a \$9,110 grant for the program. Serving 124 children in the last year, the organization faced uncertainty aid would endure the winter months with pursuit of funding for these Monroe County families a top priority.

"It's donations like this that are critical to keeping the shelter open," stated East Stroudsburg Salvation Army Major James Gingrich explaining the sum stands out as nearly 15% of the program's annual operations. Thanking the Stroudsburg foundation, he then urged attention to all area organizations as Harrisburg hashes out the budget.

MCBF proceeded to present \$16,000 to the Garden of Giving, a West End non-profit providing 10 county food pantries weekly with farm fresh vegetables and eggs. With over 12,000 lb. of provisions distributed this past season, the group has sights set on infrastructure expansion. "We've got a lot going on this year," said Garden of Giving Founder/Executive Director Tammy Graeber noting produce from over 2400 seedlings, 1/2 acre of corn, along with organic eggs planned for next harvest.

Reporting 2015 grant funding topped \$29,000 in addition to over \$120,000 combined contributions with Monroe County Bar Association to fellow community minded organizations, MCBF Chair William Reaser later commented, "We [MCBF] try to do as much as we can for the citizens of Monroe County."

For further comment:

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East Stroudsburg Salvation Army Major James Gingrich (center) accepts emergency shelter funds from Monroe County Bar Foundation's William Reaser and Diane Dagger