

PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE FOUNDATION

JANUARY 2025

Highlights of 2024

People for People Foundation: One of the many subjects highlighted in 2024 was profiling our team members, who consist of both staff and volunteers.

As our CEO stated: "We are fortunate to have a group of mature, experienced individuals each with their own unique talents that blend to make a cohesive team. Their core values of client service are the same: answer the phone; be polite; take the time to listen; make sound recommendations and referrals; thank the client for calling."

Each member contributes to the organization in his or her own way through their knowledge, experience, caring, hard work and openness to the needs of the many clients encountered.

People for People has endeavored to find so many original and effective ways to make real and lasting improvements in people's lives.

Furthermore, our Veteran Claims Agent goes all-out to provide quality service for the numerous veterans she encounters; whether that's providing resource information, beginning or updating a claim, or just offering a sympathetic ear for those in need.

Veteran events include the annual Veterans Picnic, and our yearly Wreaths of Remembrance observance.

In all, **People for People** is a grassroots foundation that continues to lend a helping hand to the South Jersey community.

Veterans Picnic: On Saturday, September 7, 2024, our Annual Veterans Day picnic we held at the Gloucester County 4H Fairgrounds. A good time was had by all!

Casino Night: Friday, November 15, 2024. People for People partnered with the Glassboro Rotary to support the Paul M. Blackstock Scholarship program.

Wreaths of Remembrance: Saturday, December 7, 2024. At the 15th Anniversary Wreaths of Remembrance, volunteers place 3,900 wreaths on the graves while saying words of gratitude to honor the deceased veterans and veteran family members buried at the **Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery** in Monroe Township.

The Victory Garden: Over the year we featured our Camp Salute Victory Garden.

We have various support from donors, sponsors and volunteers. Their time and effort, especially in constructing a pollinator garden, helps to contain plants to provide food and shelter to animals that pollinate plants and support the local ecosystem and food web.

Moreover, these donations assist in generating beautiful baskets and containers that add color to the garden, aided in growing fruits & vegetables (peppers, tomatoes, strawberries, string beans, zucchini, etc.), as well as decorating the garden for the holidays.

We are fortunate to have a group of very special people that supported the Victory Garden over the past 5 years and continue to support us today. Great partners.

Financial Planning Counseling Sessions: Provide information on HFM Investment Advisors, LLC for those seeking free financial planning counseling sessions. The sessions are confidential and cover topics like budgeting, debt pay-down strategies, saving strategies, etc.

Cover & Inside Stories

- ◆ **Mission Statement**
- ◆ **Highlights of 2024**
- ◆ **News and Updates**
- ◆ **Cooking Corner - Greek Meatballs & Rice Skillet**
- ◆ **Upcoming Events**

Please help us continue our mission assisting the veterans and residents of South Jersey by making a donation to our 20th Anniversary Fund. Click the following link to give: <https://givebutter.com/PEP20th>

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide resource and referral assistance to residents of Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties that have experienced financial hardship due to unforeseen circumstances.



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News and Updates



Delsea Regional High School - Wreaths of Remembrance

Dec. 7th, 2024 – 17 Cadets from Delsea Regional High School’s Army JROTC Service Learning Project Team supported the 15th Annual “Wreaths Of Remembrance” event at the Gloucester County Veterans Cemetery in Monroe Township, NJ. Cadets assisted with wreath distribution to hundreds of family members and over 800 volunteers. Please check out the following link for a great (short) story on the National Army JROTC website about our Cadets! <https://www.usarmyjrotc.com/delsea-regional-high-school-wreaths-of-remembrance/>



The **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** helps low-income families & individuals meet home heating & medically necessary cooling costs. Applications are based on a *first come first serve basis* from October 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Apply online at www.energyassistance.nj.gov or contact an authorized local community action agency, community-based organization or outreach agency in your county for assistance.

The **Universal Service Fund (USF)** program provides monthly credits to help make natural gas and electric bills more affordable for low-income households. For more information about USF, call: **1-800-510-3102**. Please note: The 2025 LIHEAP application is also the application for the Universal Service Fund Program (USF).

New Jersey’s Board of Public Utilities Payment Assistance for Gas & Electric Program (NJ BPU PAGE) provides energy (gas & electric) assistance grants to income qualified households experiencing a temporary financial crisis.

New Jersey Shares SMART Utility Assistance Program provides energy (gas & electric) assistance grants to income qualified households experiencing a temporary financial crisis.

New Jersey Shares Energy Assistance Grant provides energy (gas & electric) assistance grants to moderate & fixed-income households experiencing a temporary financial crisis.



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Assistance requests for those in need are normally **referred** to the **People for People Foundation** by social services, civic groups, schools, governmental agencies, police or fire departments, hospitals, and religious organization.

In 2024, **People for People** processed 392 applicants needing utility assistance. In all, the amount of funds granted to clients was more than \$177,000.



Cooking Corner



Greek Meatballs & Rice Skillet

A one-pot meal that cooks up in about an hour. Skillet cooking ensures that the meatballs stay juicy, which makes for a delicious escape from your routine!

Ingredients

- ½ cup Progresso™ plain panko crispy bread crumbs
- ¼ cup milk
- 1 lb ground beef (at least 90% lean)
- ¼ cup finely chopped red onion
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 3 tbsp finely chopped fresh Italian (flat-leaf) parsley
- 2 tbsp finely chopped fresh mint
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 egg
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup uncooked long-grain white rice
- 2 cups Progresso™ reduced sodium chicken broth (from 32-oz carton)

Directions

- ◆ In small bowl, mix bread crumbs and milk; let stand 5 minutes. In large bowl, mix beef, bread crumb mixture, onion, garlic, 2 tbsp of the parsley, the mint, salt and egg. Shape mixture into 18 (1 ¾-inch) meatballs.
- ◆ In 12-inch nonstick skillet, heat 1 tsp of the oil over medium heat. Add meatballs; cook 10 to 15 minutes, gently turning occasionally, until well browned on all sides. Transfer to plate, and wipe out skillet.
- ◆ In same skillet, heat remaining 1 tsp oil over medium-high heat. Add rice; still 1 minute. Add broth and lemon juice; heat to simmering. Add meatballs; reduce heat to medium-low. Cover; cook 14 to 17 minutes r until meatballs are thoroughly cooked and no longer pink in center (165°F) and rice is tender.
- ◆ Top skillet with tomatoes, feta cheese, lemon zest and remaining 1 tbsp parsley.

Prep Time:

40 min

Total Time:

60 min

Servings:

6



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Partnering with CONIFER REALTY, LLC
COMING SOON...

Upcoming Affordable Housing and Supportive Services

Cove at Palmyra—Palmyra

Family development located in Palmyra, NJ. Family development with 8 units set-aside for veterans at risk of homelessness. Completion scheduled for 2025.

Liberty Landing—East Greenwich

Liberty Landing located in East Greenwich, NJ. Family development with 70 total units of 1, 2, and 3 bedrooms with 35 veteran preference units. 5 units designated for veterans at risk of being homeless. Completion scheduled for 2025.

Swedesboro—Gloucester County

Family development with 5 units set -aside for veterans at risk of being homeless. Completion scheduled for 2025.

Valor Point—Middlesex County

Applications are now open for Valor Point Apartments, our newest community in Monroe Township, NJ. This modern development features 80 thoughtfully designed apartment homes, offering residents spacious and comfortable living spaces.

Woodland View—Camden County

Family development located in Camden County, NJ. 13 units will be set-aside for veterans at risk of being homeless. Completion scheduled for 2025.



PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE FOUNDATION—UPCOMING EVENTS

Veteran's Picnic

Saturday, September 6, 2025
Time: 11:00am—3:00pm
Gloucester County 4H Fairgrounds
Rt. 77, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Wreaths of Remembrance

Saturday, December 6, 2025
Times: family private gathering—9am
veteran ceremony—10am
GC Veterans Memorial Cemetery
240 N Tuckahoe Rd., Williamstown, NJ 08094

PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE FOUNDATION

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Be a helping hand. Click below.

