



“BRANCHING OUT” PANTRY AND BOUTIQUE CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

PHILLIPSBURG, NJ: Abilities of Northwest Jersey began a new program “Branching Out” Food Pantry /Thrift Shop in 2004 serving 34 families. As of today, the pantry is serving 205 families per month (adults 380 and 158 children).

Abilities is a not-for-profit agency providing a full array of community integrated employment and day program services for differently abled individuals. The Phillipsburg “Branching Out” Food Pantry is dedicated to providing relief of hunger by distributing food and other products to all eligible families in Warren County.

“Offering this service to the community provides a unique opportunity to the individuals that Abilities serves”, commented Regina Colucci, Program Supervisor at Abilities Phillipsburg Center. “The pantry offers opportunity for our consumers to give back to the community. Individuals get to experience a retail setting with sorting, tagging, pricing, and labeling the items for sale. They also help with packing the products at Norwescap food bank, loading and unloading vans, inventory, cleaning storage area and packaging. It’s a win win for everyone involved.”

The pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday, hours are 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM. The pantry distributes a variety of food: frozen meats, juices, paper products, baked goods, and vegetables both canned and fresh when in season. The thrift shop is open Monday thru Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Donations to Abilities Boutique of gently used items are greatly appreciated. All proceeds benefit Abilities day program services.

The 10 year anniversary celebration of Abilities “Branching Out” pantry and thrift shop will be Friday, April 25, 2014 at 340 Anderson Street, Phillipsburg. The celebration will begin at 9:30 AM with ribbon cutting at 10:00 AM. RSVP (908) 454-8939.

Abilities operates 6 program locations throughout Warren County and providing services and supports to over 300 differently abled individuals in Warren, northern Hunterdon, western Morris and southern Sussex counties.

For more information about Abilities visit www.abilitiesnw.com or call (908) 689-1118.

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