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Monroe College Proudly Partners with the City of New Rochelle and Volunteer New York! to Host Community Service Event to Pack 51,000 Meals for Local Families

Monroe Athletic Center Among 11 Sites Across the Country Selected for 9/11-Related "Feed the Funnel" Event

NEW ROCHELLE, NY, September 8, 2023 – <u>Monroe College</u>, a national leader in educating first generation and international students, proudly welcomed the local community to its Monroe Athletic Complex on the New Rochelle campus today for a major community service event held in partnership with the City of New Rochelle and Volunteer New York! called "Feed the Funnel."

Students, faculty, and staff from Monroe joined with New Rochelle residents and City leaders, as well as residents from surrounding communities, to pack 50,000 healthy, non-perishable meals to help hungry families across Westchester County. More than 250 volunteers participated.

The "Feed the Funnel" program is a nationwide initiative. Eleven sites across the country were selected to receive grant funding to support the event and offset related costs. Collectively, more than 1 million meals are expected to be packed at those locations this month through the initiative.

The neighbors-helping-feed-neighbors concept behind "Feed the Funnel" was inspired by the strong spirit of unity, service, and shared humanity that swept the country in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The event's timing is intended to coincide with the federal September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.

The meals were packed in two sessions – one in the morning and one in the afternoon – to facilitate pick-up from the meal distribution partners, which included soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, residential programs and others in Feeding Westchester's hunger relief network. The College's own student food pantry also received some of the meals.

Marc Jerome, president of the College, explained the event's importance to Monroe's college community: "This year marks Monroe's 40th anniversary as a proud, warmly welcomed member of the New Rochelle community. In celebration, we are delighted to continue our strong tradition of community service by opening our doors and rolling up our sleeves to be a part of this incredible event to help our local neighbors in need."

Today's event would not have been possible without the generosity of time from the many, many volunteers and the financial support of its sponsors. On behalf of those in the community who will enjoy the 51,000 meals packed today, Monroe extends its deepest appreciation to all involved, including sponsors Robison Oil, Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts, Levitt-Fuirst Associates and Webster Bank.

ABOUT MONROE COLLEGE

Founded in 1933, Monroe College is a recognized leader in urban and international education. The College is proud of its innovative programs to increase college access, affordability, and completion outcomes, especially among first-generation students. The strength of its warm, supportive culture is reflected in the personal connections fostered among students, faculty, and staff.

Monroe educates close to 8,000 students each year, offering Certificate, Associate, Bachelor's, and Master's degree programs from campuses in the Bronx, New Rochelle, and St. Lucia. Students may also take courses online.

Programs are offered through seven academic schools, including the Schools of Allied Health Professions, Business and Accounting, Criminal and Social Justice, Education, Hospitality Management and the Culinary Institute of New York (CINY), Information Technology, and Nursing, as well as through King Graduate School. Liberal arts and continuing education programs are also available. For more information and admissions criteria, please visit http://www.monroecollege.edu.