

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sandra Benedict, Director of Development, Interfaith Food Pantry Network
sbenedict@mcifp.org; (o)973-538-8049, ext. 221; (cell) 201-407-7437

Morris Plains, New Jersey: The Interfaith Food Pantry Network (IFPN) held their Annual Spring Gala, *Building a Future of Hope*, on April 22nd, 2022, at the Birchwood Manor in Whippany. After 2 years of virtual galas, over 200 people came out to celebrate the Pantry's success in addressing food insecurity over the past year, and to see how they plan to address the growing need into the future. The event raised over \$200,000, about one-third of which will be earmarked for capital projects enabling the organization to acquire and store an increased amount of healthy foods. The remaining will be used for general operating expenses.

Referred to as "Phase 1", a project to expand the IFPN's cold storage capacity by 550% is expected to be completed in May. "Phase II", scheduled to begin in June, will increase the size of their main food pantry and client services area by 228% and 142% respectively. This will enable the IFPN to accommodate current and future spikes in demand.

During the evening, IFPN honored Langan, a global engineering firm with headquarters in Parsippany, who have been volunteering with IFPN since 2018. Langan was one of few companies who continued their service to the community throughout the pandemic. In addition to donating their time and talents over the years, they made significant financial donations to IFPN through corporate contributions, employee giving campaigns and matching gifts. According to Richard Burrow, Langan Managing Principal and Executive Vice President said of the event *"Langan is delighted to have the opportunity to support IFPN. Our core values align around citizenship. We truly appreciate their mission, and it is our pleasure to partner with them."*

A surprise honoree, Greg Supron, IFPN Board of Trustee, was also present at the Gala. A Board member since 2010, he became Board Vice President in 2011, subsequently serving as President from 2013 through May of 2020. Says Supron, *"Over the past 27 years the IFPN has made great progress in its mission to improve the health and well-being of Morris County residents in need by providing access to food, nutrition education and related resources. Yet, much remains to be done."*

The Interfaith Food Pantry Network (IFPN) is the largest and most relied upon resource for emergency and supplemental food among Morris County residents in need. In 2021, the IFPN distributed 1.6 million pounds of food during more than 27,000 household visits to their food pantries and Mobile Network Partners.

Langan and its employees are committed to being global citizens through volunteerism, conservation and philanthropy. We believe in being active stewards of the world we live in – it is one of our Core Values: **Citizenship** – Contribute our time, skills and knowledge to foster change in the communities where we live and work. This commitment to corporate social responsibility takes many forms, and our employees are empowered to find ways that reflect how they can impact their communities.