



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: David Keith

Email: [dkeith@operationbbqrelief.org](mailto:dkeith@operationbbqrelief.org)

Ph: 732-300-4668

**Operation BBQ Relief to Serve 1,000 Hot Meals to Needy Residents**

(Toms River, NJ) Operation Barbeque Relief will be in Toms River Saturday, November 14, 2020, to serve 1,000 hot meals to residents who need it.

The meals will be served at the Presbyterian Church Toms River parking lot, 1070 Hooper Ave, Toms River, from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. The event was coordinated through the Hope Center, a 501 © 3 non-profit organization initiated by the Clergy Association of Greater Toms River.

As recommended by the CDC, we are practicing social distancing and limiting interactions. The food distribution will be performed drive-through style. Families should remain in their vehicle at all times. Please keep your windows closed and pop the trunk and we will deliver the food to the trunk or truck bed of your vehicle.



*David Keith, Operation BBQ Relief Area Coordinator for New Jersey, and Mayor Maurice B. Hill during Operation BBQ Relief's last visit to Toms River in November, 2019.*

This will be the fourth time that Operation BBQ Relief has helped Toms River. They served meals to Superstorm Sandy victims and came to town on two other occasions to serve needy families in 2018 and 2019.

David Keith, Area Coordinator for New Jersey, said, "We are so happy to be helping out our town and our neighbors, it is amazing to see what a hot meal can do to nourish the soul. We are grateful we are able to do this again and look forward to a great day."

"Operation BBQ Relief has been providing hot meals to residents in need in the Jersey Shore Area throughout the pandemic," said Mayor Maurice B. Hill. "We are very thankful that they will be providing hot meals to the residents of Toms River on November 14<sup>th</sup>, particularly as we near the Thanksgiving holiday."

### ***About Operation BBQ Relief®***

Operation BBQ Relief is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that was founded in May 2011 in response to a need for tornado relief efforts in Joplin, MO. Competitive pit masters from eight different states answered the call to feed displaced families and first responders. Together, they were able to serve over 120,000 meals in a thirteen-day period. To date, Operation BBQ Relief has provided over 8 million meals throughout the United States and internationally following natural disasters and through The Always Serving Project, benefiting the homeless, first responders, veterans, and service men and women. In response to COVID-19, Operation BBQ Relief has served 4.5 million meals. In total, over 5 million meals were served in 2020 in 30 different states.

For more information, visit [www.obr.org](http://www.obr.org) or follow on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram @opbbqrelief

### ***About the Hope Center***

The Hope Center is a 501 © 3 non-profit organization initiated by the Clergy Association of Greater Toms River. Their mission is to provide support, resources, referrals, food to clients as they work to overcome a current life crisis.