



OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Connecting People ... Building Community...Transforming Lives

101 Washington St., Toms River, NJ 08753-7625

Telephone: 732-349-6200

www.theoceancountylibrary.org

Susan Quinn, Director

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PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Tom Mongelli, 732-349-6200, ext. 5900
tmongelli@theoceancountylibrary.org

Thank You, Ocean County, for Helping the Sparks B.F.F. Reading Club Toiletries Drive

TOMS RIVER – Many Ocean County children in need will have fresh personal-care and toiletry items, thanks to generous county residents who have responded overwhelmingly to the Ocean County Library’s Sparks B.F.F. Reading Club collection drive.

The lengthy list of contributors includes the Filipino-American Community Development Center of Toms River, whose volunteers carried nearly 20 boxes of items, including 12 cases of hand sanitizer, to the Toms River Branch.

Members of Manchester Township High School’s National Honor Society (NHS) and Key Club chapters amassed eight boxes full of much-needed items by mid-month, and delivered them to the Library’s Manchester Branch.

According to NHS Advisor MaryEllen Fecanin, “The expectation for both Key Club and NHS students is...to demonstrate leadership and community service. They really coordinated this on their own.”

Key Clubbers solicited donations locally, and received items from Connecticut-based High Ridge Brands. They received community service credits for their efforts. NHS students fulfilled a requirement to perform community-oriented activities along with peer tutoring.

The students also donated knitted yarn “soap sacks,” created by volunteers of Supporting A Community with Kindness (SACK), the non-profit group founded in 2017 by shore resident Stacy Wiener that serves support agencies, food pantries, veterans’ clinics, homeless shelters, and relief efforts.

Keep up with Library programs and events at www.theoceancountylibrary.org, and on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Spotify](#), and [Pinterest](#).

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Seated (l-r): Theresa Zucchia, Key Club Advisor; MaryEllen Fecanin, NHS Advisor; Abena Konadu

Standing (l-r): Isabella Cavallo, Lyndsay Vigna, Riley Reardon, Jaclyn White, Marley Peth, William Borquero, Adrienne Biscondi, Allison Gilbert, MTHS Principal Dennis McAdams, Logan Duffy, Emily Emmert, Natalia Stevens, Shania Searles, Aaliyah Douglas. Photo courtesy MaryEllen Fecanin.



OCL Manchester Branch Staffers (l-r): Senior Library Assistant Rebecca Schoonmaker, Principal Library Assistant Maria Colon, Branch Manager Erin DeLucia.

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