

From the Bucks County Herald, December 26, 2002

Fisherman's Mark Gathers Gifts and Food for Area Families

Photographs and text by Karen Gross

Fisherman's Mark, a social service agency in Lambertville, N.J., distributed holiday gifts and goods to area families December 19 after collecting donations from schools, businesses, companies and individuals.

“We provided gifts and food to more than 400 children,” said Barbara J. Petty, executive director, Fisherman's Mark.

“The family fills out a wish list and people come and donate. Many people give us more than is on the wish list,” she explained.

Established in 1980, the non-profit organization provides Thanksgiving and Christmas meal supplies—turkeys, potatoes, stuffing, vegetables and desserts—and gifts to low-income families and individuals who need emergency help, such as after a house fire.

Fisherman's Mark assists families in Bucks and Montgomery counties in Pennsylvania and Hunterdon, Mercer, Warren and Somerset counties in New Jersey.

Petty said that local grocery stores, food banks and private donors contributed the food.

Many gifts were gathered by the Key Club of New Hope-Solebury High School.

The club has held an Adopt a Child program at the school for several years, where New Hope-Solebury High School families provide \$135 of holiday gifts to a Fisherman's Mark child.

This year the school provided nearly \$20,000 in gifts.

“The final number of children sponsored was 144, plus we had enough money to buy \$875 in toys for other children,” said Terri Randol, advisor of the Key Club.

“This project doesn't get done without the volunteers, donors, and sorters. I want to express my sincere gratitude,” said Petty.