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First Lady Mary Pat Christie Honors Sixteen-Year-Old Jordyn Cascone, Founder of Jordyn's Cause 4 Paws, as 49th New Jersey Hero

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Trenton, NJ – First Lady Mary Pat Christie today named Jordyn Cascone, founder of *Jordyn's Cause 4 Paws* in Mercer County, as her 49th New Jersey Hero. Sixteen-year-old Jordyn is being recognized for a program she began to help homebound individuals ensure their pets are nourished. What initially began as a Girl Scout Silver Award project, Jordyn continued and further developed into a nonprofit organization that has partnered with Meals on Wheels to provides pet food for the animals of the homebound.

"I'm so impressed by Jordyn's initiative and determination in establishing this unique service that focuses on the dietary needs of Meals on Wheels recipients and their pets," said First Lady Mary Pat Christie. "Jordyn learned that many homebound do not have the means to buy food for their animal companions so they often use their own groceries to provide pet meals. It's so inspiring to see the commitment of this young woman to improve the lives of others and I am indeed proud to name Jordyn Cascone as my 4th New Jersey Hero of 2017 and 49th Hero overall."

Jordyn's Cause 4 Paws currently provides food for dogs, cats, birds and fish and distributes approximately 150 pet meals a month to 40 households. Since 2014, the organization has delivered over 50,000 pet food meals and spends nearly \$8,000 a year on maintaining a pet food supply. *Jordyn's Cause 4 Paws* uses specific questionnaires to ensure that these meals are tailored to the dietary needs of each individual recipient and their pet.

"I am extremely honored to be receiving this New Jersey Heroes Award," said Jordyn Cascone. "Serving my community has been a privilege knowing I am comforting the homebound by supporting their loving pets. I would like to thank First Lady Mary Pat Christie and the team at New Jersey Heroes for recognizing me with this incredible award. *Jordyn's Cause 4 Paw's* recipients will greatly benefit from the support given to my organization. I would also like to thank my teacher, Ms. Hendrickson for nominating me for this award. Words cannot express what this award means to me."

Jordyn is actively making efforts to expand the organization. She plans to meet with other Girl Scout troops from Central and Southern New Jersey to present *Jordyn's Cause 4 Paws* and all its achievements, in the hopes that it will spread throughout New Jersey. She also plans to meet with Meals on Wheels of America to expand nationwide.

For more information about *Jordyn's Cause 4 Paws*, please visit their website: <http://www.jordynscause4paws.org/>

New Jersey Heroes is a private, non-partisan, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization founded by First Lady Mary Pat Christie in 2010 to showcase the positive and unique ways people and organizations are impacting New Jersey and their communities.

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