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## **For Immediate Release**

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Photo: John T. Derderian, President and COO of Allegiance Retail Services speaks with Jason Ferreira, CEO, Ferreira Foodtown and Board Member of Foundation Fighting Blindness at the recent ARS Annual Member Meeting.

## Allegiance Retail Services Inducted into Foundation Fighting Blindness' Beacon Society

Services (ARS) supports important causes, especially those by the grocery cooperative's members. One such organization is the <u>Foundation Fighting Blindness</u>, which recognized ARS's outstanding generosity over the years by inducting the company into the inaugural Beacon Society at their virtual event, Night for Sight, held in June 2021.

"We are excited to have Allegiance Retail Services join the Foundation Fighting Blindness' Beacon Society for their years of support of our mission," says Ben Yerxa, PhD, chief executive officer of the Foundation Fighting Blindness. "Their commitment to philanthropic work within their communities is inspirational."

Foundation Fighting blindness was brought to the attention of ARS by member grocer Jason Ferreira, CEO, Ferreira Foodtown, who serves on the Foundation's board of directors. Jason became motivated in the fight against blinding diseases after his then 5-month-old son, J.J., was diagnosed with Leber congenital amaurosis (LCA), a genetic retinal disease characterized by severe vision loss at birth. With the backing of ARS, one major event started by Jason and his wife Jennifer, is a dinner "A Vision for the Future," which unites the supermarket industry to support the Foundation and its research.

"Even in a highly competitive industry, the grocery sector is a tight knit family, all looking out for one another," said John T. Derderian, President and COO of Allegiance. "Allegiance is committed to supporting our member grocers and serving as a beacon for the health and wellbeing of the communities they serve."

## About Allegiance Retail Services

Allegiance Retail Services, LLC supports independent supermarkets (e.g., Foodtown, Freshtown, D'Agostino, Gristedes, Pathmark, LaBella Marketplace, Brooklyn Harvest, Market Fresh, Big Deal Food Market, Green Way Markets and Shop n Bag) for retail success by providing them with marketing, advertising, technological and merchandising support, as well as a full line of private label products, including Foodtown, Green Way and Rancher's Legend.

For more information, visit www.allegianceretailservices.com.

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