

Issue 3
July 2017

HICKORY NUT GORGE

OUTREACH
serving needs with love & compassion

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A Message from Hope

Can you believe we are more than halfway through the summer of 2017? It's wonderful to see so many locals and visitors enjoying the beauty that is Lake Lure. As you will read in this newsletter, the Spring Arts and Crafts Festival, which benefits Outreach, was a rousing success despite the big Sunday storm. We're now gearing up for the new school year and helping our students get off to a great start by providing backpacks filled with school supplies. Read more about how you can help. And right after the School Supplies Drive, we'll begin preparations for the holiday season. 2017 is certainly moving by quickly!

Once again, on behalf of the Board, we want to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of Outreach. Whether you made a monetary donation or provided food or time, Outreach just can't be successful without our community members, churches and businesses. Thank you for all you do to enable us to help those in need. Wishing you and your family a wonderful rest of the summer!



Even the smallest act of caring for another person is like a drop of water – it will make ripples throughout the entire pond.

– Jesse and Bryan Matteo



Despite a little bit of adverse weather (okay.... a lot of adverse weather!), the Spring Art & Crafts Festival was a huge success. With over 80 artisans and 12 food vendors, attendees had a great opportunity to see and purchase unique hand-made items. Early Sunday morning, a microburst hit the exact location of many of the vendors' tents, bringing down a number of them. As they always do, our wonderful emergency responders ensured everything was safe. Festival organizers and local residents helped in the clean up efforts, and the festival was opened to all just a little later than planned. It was a wonderful event enjoyed by all. All proceeds from the Festival directly benefit Outreach who serves residents needing assistance.

Come join us for the Autumn Arts & Crafts Festival on October 21 – 22!



School Supplies Drive

Outreach supplies our clients' school age children with a backpack filled with the majority of the sanctioned school supplies needed for the school year. We will be collecting school supply donations between **July 17 and August 7**. Items can be dropped off at the Outreach office or at the Mountains Branch Library. If you'd like to provide financial support instead, you can donate via PayPal at hickorynutgorgeoutreach.org or send your donation to HNGO, PO Box 634, Lake Lure NC 28746. Thank you!

Items most needed: Backpacks, composition books, wide and college ruled loose leaf paper, #2 and mechanical pencils, pens, crayons and colored pencils, glue sticks and bottles, pocket folders, graphing paper, black Sharpie markers, highlighters, sanitizing wipes, tissues.



Special Thanks

- To the Lois M. Collier Charitable Trust for their generous donation.
- To the Rutherford County Endowment of the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina for awarding a grant to Outreach for **\$5000**.
- To Chimney Rock State Park – Tin for Ten Collection. Landis Hollifield dropped off **83 pounds** of food donated by generous visitors to the Park.
- To UHNGCC for monthly food donations.



Who We Served - Food For Kids: January – June 2017

6	Average # of children receiving weekday school lunches
40	Average # of children receiving weekend backpacks

In Memoriam



Who We Served – January – June 2017

90%	White / Caucasian
9%	Black / African American
1%	Latino
56%	Male
44%	Female
61%	Children (0-17)
33%	Adults (18-64)
6%	Seniors (65+)
87	Average number of families served each month
333	Average number of individuals served each month

It is with deep sorrow that we share that our beloved Board member, Chuck Hailey, passed away unexpectedly in May. Chuck was a member of the Outreach Board from 2008 – 2017, serving as Treasurer from 2013 – 2016. Chuck had a passion for Outreach and serving those less fortunate in our community. Those wishing to honor Chuck and his service to Outreach can make donations to Outreach via PayPal at hickorynutgorgeoutreach.org or to Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach, PO Box 634, Lake Lure, NC 28746. Donations can also be made to Church of the Transfiguration, PO Box 130, Bat Cave, NC 28710.

Introducing Our New Website

We've overhauled our website! Visit our website to take a tour and learn all about our programs and upcoming events. To simplify the process for donors, we now accept PayPal donations on the website. Enjoy your visit to the website and share it with your friends! <https://hickorynutgorgeoutreach.org>

2017 Calendar of Events

July 17 – August 7: School Supplies Drive
 October 6: H.O.P.E. Bag distribution to Churches
 October 21 – 22: Autumn Arts & Crafts Festival
 November 3: Last day to drop off H.O.P.E. Bags to Outreach
 November 6: Angel Tree Gifts – Select your Angels
 November 20: Distribution of Thanksgiving meals
 December 1: Last day to drop off Angel Tree gifts to Outreach
 December 11 – 18: Distribution of Christmas gift cards, meals and Angel Tree gifts
 December 19 – January 4: HNGO Office Closed

About Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach: Our Mission

Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving families in the Hickory Nut Gorge community, which extends into four counties. Our mission is to help eliminate hunger and provide emergency services with love and compassion to those in need that live in our community. HNG Outreach is solely funded through donations from generous members of our community, fundraisers, and local food drives. HNG Outreach does not receive any federal funds. Food and other products are purchased at a minimal cost from the MANNA Food Bank (a Feeding America partner), as well as at local stores. All Outreach programs and activities are fully supported by 50+ volunteers.



Visit us at <https://hickorynutgorgeoutreach.org>