

Issue 2
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A Message from Hope

There is nothing as special as the fresh Spring air in Lake Lure! With the season comes the beauty in nature, colorful flowers and trees and families enjoying the blooming outdoors. At Outreach, Spring is in the air, too. We held the annual Shrimp & Grits Fundraiser on April 20th. 200+ community members joined in for a beautiful evening filled with food, friendship and fun. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and support Outreach!

Plans are currently underway for Outreach's largest fundraiser, the Spring Arts & Crafts Festival, on Memorial Day weekend. As in the past, there will be 100+ vendors with great crafts, delicious food, and varied entertainment. We hope to see you there during the three-day event!

On behalf of the Outreach Board, thank you for all you do to enable the organization to effectively operate. Local residents, churches and businesses continue to provide generous monetary and in-kind donations, and volunteers offer their personal time to assist and serve those in need. None of this could be achieved without your valuable support! Wishing you and your families a beautiful Spring.



*“I alone cannot change the world. But I can cast a stone across
the waters to create many Ripples”*

- Mother Teresa

Special Thanks

- To the Hickory Nut Gorge Foundation for providing a \$500 grant to Outreach.
- To Artist Diane Breaker for her gracious donation of the proceeds from a silent auction of her *Soul Searching* sculpture. You can see the beautiful sculpture on display at Outreach.
- To all individuals, organizations and churches that donated canned goods for Souper Bowl Sunday. 818 pounds of soup were donated to Outreach.
- To the Blue Ridge Humane Society for their monthly donation of dog/cat food.
- To all individuals, businesses, organizations and churches that provided financial support to Outreach programs.



How You Can Help (In-Kind Donations)

Outreach always accepts in-kind donations. Below are the items that we can accept that are most needed for the Food Pantry and Food for Kids Programs.

- Low sugar cereal
- Chef Boyardee products
- Chunky soup
- Canned tuna and chicken
- Canned fruit
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Juice boxes and large containers
- Condiments – ketchup, mayo, mustard
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Deodorant for women/men
- Bar Soap

- Toothpaste and tooth brushes
- Small packages cookies/crackers/fruit
- Diapers and wipes

Reminders for 2018

- **Annual Contribution Statements:** Beginning this year, we will send you an annual statement for all 2018 contributions. With this new, more efficient process, we will no longer send individual contribution receipts. Your first statement will be mailed at the end of January 2019.
- **Amazon Smile:** Amazon donates .05% of each of your purchases to your favorite charity. Just go to smile.amazon.com, log in, search for the charity of your choice and select it. Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach is one of the charities available to be selected, and we would love your support. Once you select your charity, go to smile.amazon.com for all of your purchases.
- **Newsletter Delivery:** If you'd like to receive your newsletter delivered to your email instead of a hard copy, please let us know. This will allow us to save on print and postage expenses.
- **Trust & Estate Planning:** As Trust and Estate planning is occurring, please keep Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach in mind.

2018 Shrimp & Grits Fundraiser



2018 Shrimp & Grits Fundraiser



*Who We Served – Food Pantry:
January – March 2018*

90%	White / Caucasian
8%	Black / African American
2%	Latino
54%	Male
46%	Female
63%	Children (0-17)
32%	Adults (18-64)
5%	Seniors (65+)
98	Average number of families served each month
386	Average number of individuals served each month



*Who We Served – Food for Kids:
January – March 2018*

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

2018 Calendar of Events

May 26 – May 28: Lake Lure Spring Arts & Crafts Festival

July: School Supplies Drive (Check for drop off dates on Outreach Facebook page and website)

October 20 – 21: Lake Lure Fall Arts & Crafts Festival

November 19: Thanksgiving Distribution

December: Angel Tree Gift Angel Selection and Drop Off (Check for dates in 3rd quarter newsletter)



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. Outreach is solely funded through donations from generous members of our community, fundraisers, and local food drives. 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 40+ volunteers.

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