

Issue 3
July 2018

HICKORY NUT GORGE

OUTREACH

serving needs with love & compassion

Board Members

Hope Wittmer, President
Patrick Bryant, Secretary
Steven Smith, Treasurer
Linda Ratschan, Outreach Manager
Bernadette Smith
Patti Stewart

Newsletter Editor

Bernadette Smith

Contact Information

Address: 2594 Memorial Highway,
PO Box 634, Lake Lure NC 28746

Phone: (828) 625-4683

Email Address:
hngoutreach@gmail.com

Website Address:
<https://hickorynutgorgeoutreach.org>

A Message from Hope

Welcome to summer in Lake Lure! It's been so nice to meet newcomers to our little town, while welcoming back old friends. The Spring Arts & Crafts Festival, held over the Memorial Day weekend, was a perfect place to do just that! As in the past, over 100 vendors came with their wares, along with some terrific local food merchants. And of course, the entertainment was just wonderful. Best of all, the weather was great for the first two days. We are so appreciative of those that support the Festival, as it is the largest fundraiser each year for Outreach!

Once again, we want to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of Outreach. None of our work can be done without you. Have a wonderful summer!



“Power is the ability to do good things for others.”

- Brooke Astor



A great big thank you to all of the vendors and volunteers that participated in this years Spring Arts & Crafts Festival. Visitors had a great time shopping, eating and enjoying the wonderful entertainment. We'll see you in October for the Fall Arts & Crafts Festival!



School Supply Drive

The new school year will begin in mid-August, and once again, Outreach will hold its annual School Supply Drive. We will be providing school aged children with a backpack full of the supplies they will need to start off the school year. We will also be providing school uniforms for our client's kids/grandkids who attend LLCA.

If you would like to help out by donating supplies, see the list below for where we have the biggest need. Please drop off at the Outreach office during regular business hours by **August 3rd**. If you'd prefer to provide a financial donation, we'll do the shopping for you!

- ◆ Backpacks
- ◆ Graphing Paper
- ◆ Wide Ruled Loose Leaf Paper
- ◆ College Ruled Loose Leaf Paper
- ◆ Black Sharpies (wide, fine, ultra fine)
- ◆ Colored Markers
- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Clorox Wipes
- ◆ Hand Sanitizer

Special Thanks

- To the Little Garden That Grew that donated canned goods from the grand opening event at Mountains Branch Library.
- To New Beginnings Farm for their financial donation from Easter festivities.
- To Exit Realty Vistas/Riverbend for their financial donation from their grand opening.
- 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 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.
- **Paypal:** You can now make your donation via PayPal! Donations can be set up as a one time event or as recurring event.
- **Trust & Estate Planning:** As Trust and Estate planning is occurring, please keep Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach in mind.

Who We Served – Food Pantry: January – June 2018

90%	White / Caucasian
10%	Black / African American
0%	Latino
52%	Male
48%	Female
59%	Children (0-17)
35%	Adults (18-64)
6%	Seniors (65+)
94	Average number of families served each month
351	Average number of individuals served each month

Who We Served – Food for Kids: January – June 2018

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

2018 Calendar of Events

July 1 – August 15: School Supplies Drive
(Drop off during normal business hours)
October 20 – 21: Lake Lure Fall Arts & Crafts
Festival
November 19: Thanksgiving Distribution
December: Angel Tree Gift Selection and Drop
Off (Check for dates in the October 2018
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>