

**Issue 4**  
**October 2018**



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*A Message from Hope*

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are enjoying the beautiful autumn weather in Lake Lure. We had another very successful School Supplies Drive, and of course, the Fall Arts & Crafts Festival was a wonderful time for local residents and visitors. The Festival is our largest fundraiser and has a significant impact on our ability to serve those in need in our community. Now we are gearing up for our busiest time of the year! Once again, we want to make the holidays special for our clients and their families. At the same time, Outreach volunteers will be manning the Food Pantry and the Food for Kids Programs and ensuring they run without a hitch.

Thank you for all you provide, whether through time or financial assistance, to help us help others. We simply can't do this without you. Wishing you and your family a wonderful fall and holiday season!



*“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting others up.”*

*- John Holmes*



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



### *The Holidays are Coming!*



It's that time of year again! Once again, we plan to help our clients make wonderful memories with their families throughout the holiday season.

- ◆ For Thanksgiving, we provide each family with the ingredients needed to make a wonderful dinner for their families.
- ◆ For Christmas, we provide each family with a \$35 gift card, which allows them to select the food items that best suit their family.
- ◆ For the kids, we have the Angel Tree Program. Children aged 0-12 receive clothing and toys, and children aged 13-16 receive a \$30 gift card.

How you can help:

- ◆ Check with your local church to find out what food items you can donate to fill H.O.P.E. bags for Thanksgiving.
- ◆ Donate food items directly to Outreach.
- ◆ Pick an Angel from the Angel Tree and purchase clothes, toys or a gift card, depending on age, beginning November 5<sup>th</sup>.

See the calendar on **page 4** for important dates.

### *School Supply Drive*

This year we had a new record for distributing school supplies. **95** children received backpacks filled with everything needed to start off the new school year. A big thank you to everyone that donated school supplies or financial assistance.





### Special Thanks

- To the RHI Legacy Foundation for the very generous grant they awarded to Outreach to help enhance the interior office structure and provide more sustainable foods to clients.
- To the Lake Lure Lions Club for their generous donation.



- To the NC Lutheran Youth State Board for donating 234 pounds of assorted food items.



- To the Riverbend community for their donation of school supplies.
- 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.

### 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.
- **Paypal:** You can now make your donation via PayPal! Donations can be set up as a one time event or as recurring event.

### Who We Served – Food Pantry: January – September 2018

87%	White / Caucasian
12%	Black / African American
1%	Latino
52%	Male
48%	Female
56%	Children (0-17)
38%	Adults (18-64)
6%	Seniors (65+)
88	Average number of families served each month
320	Average number of individuals served each month

### Who We Served – Food for Kids: January – September 2018

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

*2018 Calendar of Events*

- 11/5 Donors select children from Angel Tree
- 11/19 Thanksgiving meal distribution
- 11/30 Final day for donors to drop off Angel Tree Gifts
- 12/6 Angel Tree and Christmas Gift Card distribution begins
- 12/20 Final day for Angel Tree and Gift Card pick up
- 12/20 Last day HNGO open in 2018
- 01/03 First day HNGO open in 2019



*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>